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G-7 Prepares 'More Visible' Russian Aid Package

OW0904085393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0827 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—The group of seven (G-7) major industrialized countries are working on a "more visible" aid package for Russia to be announced at next week's ministerial meeting in Tokyo, Japanese Government sources said Friday [9 April]. The sources said the package would include emergency technological and humanitarian aid, energy sector aid to help boost Russia's foreign exchange earnings, and steps to promote development of small and medium-sized enterprises. The G-7 package also features the conversion of military industry to civilian production and integration of Russia into the international trading system within the context of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the sources said.

A Foreign Ministry source said the G-7 is considering "extending a more visible support for Russia" than a 24 billion dollar emergency package agreed upon at the Munich economic summit last year. Also under consideration are additional steps to improve the safety of nuclear power plants in Russia, the sources said. The G-7 ministers may also discuss holding the July 7-9 Tokyo summit earlier, the Foreign Ministry source said.

The foreign and finance ministers from Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the United States will assemble in Tokyo for two days of talks next Wednesday and Thursday [14, 15 April] including a session with Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and Deputy Premier Boris Fedorov.

The sources cautioned, however, that the new G-7 emergency aid package for Moscow does not represent a departure from Japan's longstanding aid policy toward Russia. Japan has refrained from extending major economic assistance to Russia because of a bilateral territorial dispute. The sources said Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and Foreign Minister Kabun Muto will meet separately with Kozyrev. Among the potential topics for discussion are the dumping of nuclear reactors in the sea of Japan and a possible trip to Japan by Russian President Boris Yeltsin, the sources said. Miyazawa and Muto are also expected to hold separate talks with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

NHK Interviews UN High Commissioner for Refugees

OW0304140593 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 3 Apr 93

[Report on "exclusive interview" with Sadako Ogata, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, by an unidentified NHK reporter in Cambodia on 3 April]

[Text] UN High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata, who is currently visiting Cambodia, granted an interview to an NHK reporter in Cambodia on 3 April. In the interview, Ogata stated that the UN may officially designate Vietnamese residents who flee to the SRV from their homes in Cambodia as refugees and, in turn, protect them if their numbers continue to increase.

[Begin recording] [Ogata] Cooperation for conciliation naturally means [word indistinct]. The election scheduled for May will be useless unless every concerned party makes concilatory efforts.

[Reporter] If a large-scale exodus of this ethnic group occurs, what will you do?

[Ogata] If this does indeed happen, we must take quick action. [end recording]

Ogata stated that she hopes that it does not become necessary for UNTAC—the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia—to protect ethnic residents in Cambodia as refugees. She called on all three Cambodian factions to protect the rights of ethnic groups. Ogata said that UNTAC can play a very important role in ensuring that the rights of Vietnamese in Cambodia are respected.

Ogata met with Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Phnom Penh on the same day. She asked him to play a leading role in preventing a large-scale exodus of Vietnamese residents from Cambodia.

Japan

Miyazawa Plans To Brief Clinton on Import Steps

OW0904110093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1044 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will pledge to boost imports to help pull the global economy out of years of recession when he meets U.S. President Bill Clinton next week in Washington, government sources said Friday. The Japan-U.S. summit is set for April 16, three days after Japan announces a new economic stimulus package designed to buoy the sluggish domestic economy.

Miyazawa will brief Clinton on details of the new pump-priming package to make it understood as a program to boost domestic demand, thereby paving the way for more imports, the sources said. The new stimulus package, which follows last summer's 10.7 trillion yen package, should total 12 trillion yen, the biggest package ever, acccording to government and ruling party officials.

Miyazawa also will explain the framework of a new program being prepared to channel Japan's external surplus to developing nations to meet their capital demand, the sources said.

Miyazawa Hopes To Work With U.S. on Pollution

OW0904122993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1211 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa plans to muster support from U.S. President Bill Clinton for a proposal to work jointly to defend the global environment from industrial pollution, government sources said Friday. Miyazawa will put forward the proposal in an upcoming summit meeting with Clinton on April 16, the sources said.

The government has already conveyed this idea to Washington unofficially, they said.

To this end, Japan and the United States are expected to agree to initiate a series of vice ministerial-level meetings from various government ministries, along with ambassadors of the two nations, they said. In this new forum, the two nations are expected to discuss how to protect environments in developing nations as a means of enhancing bilateral cooperation under the concept of global partnership, they said.

The concept of global partnership was promoted in Japan-U.S. summit talks between Miyazawa and former U.S. President George Bush in January 1992.

The two leaders are also expected to discuss how to support efforts by civic groups which have been grappling with the issue of environmental protection, as well as ways to train experts in this field, they said.

Tokyo Delays Decision on Northwest Airlines

OW0904050793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0339 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Japan will put off until mid-May a decision on whether to take action against Northwest Airlines over its alleged violation of Tokyo's rules by extending its New York-Osaka route to Sydney, Transport Minister Ihei Ochi said Friday.

The government was considering banning the airline from picking up passengers in Osaka for the Osaka-Sydney leg of the service for one month, beginning Sunday. The restrictions would have applied to one of the three weekly round-trip flights.

Industry sources said the decision was put off because the Japanese Government did not want to create a new dispute with the United States, with a Washington summit between Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and U.S. president Bill Clinton scheduled for April 16. The dispute focuses on Northwest Airlines' refusal to agree to Japan's condition that it should not pick up more passengers on the Osaka-Sydney extension than on the New York-Tokyo leg of the service.

Mieno Blames Yen's Rise on Slow U.S. Recovery

OW0804112793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0348 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said Thursday the recent appreciation of the yen against the dollar on the foreign exchange market has resulted in part from the slow U.S. economic recovery.

Government officials said Mieno also said at a meeting of cabinet ministers on economic affairs that U.S. economic recovery has been slower than expected, causing the dollar's value to fall.

Official Regrets Consumers' Lack of Benefits

OW0804112593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0248 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—A high-ranking government official expressed irritation Thursday that Japanese consumers are getting little benefits from the yen's rise against the U.S. dollar. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that despite the yen's record highs against the U.S. dollar, few import-related industries have passed on any of their windfall profits to consumers.

The dollar was trading at 113.65 yen at midmorning Thursday, down more than 8 percent from the 125 yen level marked at the beginning of the year.

Although some major supermarket chain operators have started to reduce retail prices of imported fruits, fish, beef, and beverages, utilities industries are not yet poised to cut their rates. An official of Tokyo Electric Power Co.

said it is impossible at this time to cut the electricity rate because of the recent rise in crude oil prices.

The Economic Planning Agency, meanwhile, has launched a retail price survey on imported items since the end of March.

Hayashi Calls 112-Yen-to-Dollar Level Unstable

OW0904020093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0153 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi on Friday called the dollar's temporary plunge overseas to the 112 yen level "totally unstable" and warned that Group of Seven (G-7) financial authorities will "take appropriate action" to maintain stability.

Hayashi, speaking at the regular press conference after the morning cabinet meeting, said the recent dive of the dollar is "far too fast" viewed from the long-term perspective.

The dollar temporarily went into the 112 yen level for the first time ever in New York and London on Thursday. The U.S. currency, however, rebounded later in Tokyo to open Friday at 113.55 yen.

Ministry: G-7 Close to Agreement on Russia Aid

OW0904101193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0957 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—The Group of Seven (G-7) major economies are close to agreement on multilateral assistance to Russia, but what Japan can or will do on a bilateral basis remains to be seen, Japanese Vice Finance Minister Mamoru Ozaki said Friday.

Ozaki did not elaborate on the multilateral scheme, but speaking of bilateral aid, he said Japan is considering the possibility of giving Russia export credit, grants, technical assistance, and loans through the Export-Import Bank of Japan. He did not say what the scale might be. Ozaki was speaking at his regular weekly press meeting. G-7 finance and foreign ministers are to convene in Tokyo April 14-15 to discuss aid to Russia.

Ozaki said there could be bilateral meetings between Japanese Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi and his G-7 counterparts next week, but questioned whether there would be enough time to hold a meeting exclusively of finance ministers. A working meal is most likely, if such a meeting is to take place, he added.

Turning to the appreciation of the yen against the dollar, Ozaki said the Japanese currency seems to be gaining strength against the dollar as well as the German mark, rather than the dollar becoming weaker. He said the movement is "rapid." Abroad, the yen soared temporarily to the 112 yen level overnight for the first time ever. It closed at a record low of 113.15 yen in Tokyo Friday.

On domestic issues, Ozaki hoped the income tax exemption for meeting educational needs, on which the ruling and opposition parties have agreed, can be included in the new economic stimulation program, but questioned whether the measure could really be called a pump-priming one.

Responding to worries that current appreciation of the yen is too steep and may injure the export industry, Ozaki said he believes the economic package to be announced next week will eventually benefit that industry.

Russia Debt Rescheduling Affects Insurance Fund

OW0804104993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1030 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—Rescheduling of Russia's external debt will result in a decrease of about 70 billion yen in the Japanese Government's export insurance fund, government officials said Thursday. The officials at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said the group of Russia's creditor nations, known as the Paris Club, has agreed to reschedule about 15 billion dollars worth of debt owed by the former Soviet Union. The rescheduled amount includes Japan's official loans totaling about 800 million dollars—100 million dollars provided by the Export-Import Bank of Japan and 700 million dollars worth of Japanese exports insured by the ministry, the officials said.

Tokyo 'Fifth' in Aid to Former Soviet States

OW0904124893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1227 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Japan ranks fifth among the group of seven major industrial nations (G-7) in aid to Russia and other former Soviet republics, with its aid totaling some 2.82 billion dollars, according to a Foreign Ministry report released Friday.

Germany is first with some 50.8 billion dollars, followed by the United States with 9.97 billion dollars, Italy with 4.61 billion dollars and France with 2.98 billion dollars, the report shows. Canada is in sixth place with some 2.71 billion dollars in aid, followed by Britain with some 765 million dollars, according to the report.

The figures are based on a commitment basis, or aid pledged.

When other countries are considered, Japan lags behind South Korea in bilateral aid to the former Soviet states as Seoul has pledged some 3 billion dollars, the report shows.

The report came out a few days before the G-7 foreign and finance ministers meet in Tokyo to discuss how to help Russia in moving toward a market economy. At the Tokyo meeting, the G-7 ministers are expected to consider a new multilateral aid package to Russia.

Miyazawa Favors Yeltsin Visit's Rescheduling

OW0904050493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0452 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Friday that Japan will discuss with Russia the rescheduling of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's official visit to Japan, government officials said.

Miyazawa told a cabinet meeting that it is necessary to talk about rescheduling the visit, which Yeltsin unilaterally postponed last September, and "other bilateral issues," when Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev comes to Tokyo next Wednesday, the officials said. The other bilateral issues include a territorial dispute over four islands off Hokkaido seized by the former Soviet Union at the end of World War II.

Kozyrev is scheduled to attend a special meeting on aid to Russia of foreign and finance ministers of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations to be held here next Wednesday and Thursday. The G-7 members are Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States.

Aid to Russia is also expected to top the agenda of the G-7 summit set for July 7-9 in Tokyo, which Yeltsin has been invited to attend.

Muto: Russian Nuclear Dumping on Summit Agenda

OW0904014593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0059 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Japan will place Russia's dumping of nuclear waste into the sea near Japan on the agenda for the Tokyo summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations in July, Foreign Minister Kabun Muto said Friday. Muto told a cabinet meeting that Japan will propose the nuclear issue at a meeting next week in Kyoto of "sherpas" or personal representatives of G-7 leaders who will be laying the groundwork for the July 7-9 Tokyo summit. The G-7 is made up of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the United States.

Muto also said that he will ask Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev for detailed information on the matter next week, they said.

Kozyrev is scheduled to arrive in Tokyo next Wednesday and will join a special meeting of foreign and economic ministers of G-7 countries on aid to Russia. The meeting will be held Wednesday and Thursday and Kozyrev is expected to join in on the second day.

According to reports from Moscow, the Soviet Union and Russia dumped radioactive waste in the Sea of Japan, the Sea of Okhotsk, and in an area southeast of Kamchatka from 1959 to 1992.

The new Japanese foreign minister also said Russia has not asked Japan for assistance to cope with the explosion Tuesday [6 April] at a former nuclear weapons complex in Tomsk-7 in Siberia that scattered radiation over a vast area.

Group Set Up To Analyze Russian Nuclear Issue

OW0804130093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1229 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—The Japanese electric power industry on Thursday set up a group to study and analyze the nuclear situation in Russia. The group was created within the Federation of Electric Power Companies in view of the recent disclosure that the former Soviet Union and Russia have dumped radioactive waste and nuclear reactors into the Sea of Japan, and Tuesday's explosion at a depleted nuclear fuel reprocessing plant in Tomsk, Siberia, federation officials said. It will meet about once a week to discuss information gathered by overseas offices of Japanese utilities and related agencies.

Agency Plans To Send Team to Siberian Spill

OW0904051293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0457 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—The Science and Technology Agency will send a team to Russia to investigate Tuesday's [7 April] explosion at a nuclear fuel reprocessing plant in the Siberian town of Tomsk-7, the agency's director general Mamoru Nakajima said Friday. The agency plans to contact the Russian side via the Foreign Ministry to arrange a schedule for the team.

It will be led by Yasutaka Moriguchi, director of international cooperation in the research and international affairs division of the agency's Atomic Energy Bureau. It will include representatives of the power reactor and nuclear fuel development corporation and the Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute.

They will investigate the cause of the accident and levels of radioactivity released into the atmosphere to evaluate the possible implications for Japan.

Nakajima said the team's findings will assist in planning safety measures in the construction of a commercial reprocessing center in Rokkasho, Aomori Prefecture.

The explosion of a uranium solution tank at the Sibirsk chemical center in Tomsk-7, a city off-limits to foreigners in western Siberia, contaminated 200 square kilometers of land with radiation, a Russian Government committee said Wednesday.

Tokyo 'May Offer' Russia Nuclear Disposal Aid

OW0904131693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1304 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Japan may offer Russia technical assistance in disposing of nuclear waste next week if Russia agrees to end dumping of such wastes at sea, top government spokesman Yohei Kono said Friday. Foreign Minister Kabun Muto plans to tell his Russian counterpart Andrey Kozyrev that Russia should stop disposing of radioactive waste at sea, Chief Cabinet Secretary Kono told a news conference.

Kono said that Japan hopes to solicit an explanation of reports that Russia dumped nuclear waste into the Sea of Japan and the Kara and Barents Seas between 1966-1991. Japan may offer technical assistance to help Russia construct land disposal facilities should Moscow be responsive to Tokyo's concerns, Kono said.

Japan also plans to take up the issue with leaders of other major industrialized countries at the July 7-9 Tokyo summit. Kozyrev is to meet with Muto when he visits here in conjunction with the April 14-15 Group of Seven (G-7) foreign and finance ministers meeting on aid to Russia.

In a related development, in a report released Thursday, Russia said that sea dumping of radioactive waste will continue due to delays in constructing storage and processing facilities. The document said Russia intends to dispose at sea three submarines that were disabled by nuclear reactor accidents. But it signalled it would be willing to consult with other countries about dumping sites.

Documents: Former Soviet Union Aided SDPJ

OW0904142093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1336 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—The Soviet Communist Party gave two Japanese opposition parties funds and assistance, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) said Friday.

The LDP made public documents it had collected which showed the Soviet assistance to Japan's largest opposition party, the Social Democratic Party [of Japan—SDPJ], and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP). The SDP used the funds for election campaigns, while a Moscow correspondent for the JCP's paper, "AKAHATA," received financial assistance, the documents said.

The papers, dated between 1953 and 1991, are summaries of about 130 documents concerning Japan from the former Soviet Union. They include agendas from Soviet Communist Party Central Committee secretarial meetings and records of talks between senior SDP officials and former Soviet Union Embassy workers.

According to the documents, senior SDP officials asked the Soviet Communist Party to give the SDP money from the profits of a trading firm affiliated to the former Japan-Soviet Trade Association. The records indicated that the Soviet assistance was used for election campaigns for the House of Councillors in July 1968 and July 1974.

LDP officials said all the documents made public have stamps on them which prove they are formal papers.

The SDP denied the LDP report, saying neither the party nor the former Japan-Soviet Trade Association received any funds from the Soviet Communist Party. The SDP said it will make public the results of its own survey later this month.

The JCP also denied the LDP report, saying unless it is based on facts, "it can not be said a serious report."

The LDP sent a mission to Russia in March to collect the documents. The mission collected about 573 Japan-related documents there and has been translating and analyzing them, the LDP officials said.

Organized Crime Suspected of Smuggling Chinese

OW0804112993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0549 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Kagoshima, April 8 KYODO—Police said Thursday they searched the offices of a gang in Hokkaido which was allegedly behind an attempt to smuggle 145 Chinese people into Japan over the weekend.

Nine police officers from Kagoshima, Kumamoto and Nagasaki Prefectures searched the offices in Sapporo and Nemuro on suspicion that their occupants violated the Immigration Law, police said. They also searched the house of Takashi Abe, 49, a member of a crime syndicate in Hokkaido and captain of a Japanese fishing boat that carried the Chinese, they said.

On Saturday, Maritime Safety Agency officials detained the Chinese and four Japanese, including Abe, when an agency patrol boat intercepted the No. 28 Nagato Maru, from Nemuro off the port of Akune in Kagoshima Prefecture.

Police later arrested another Japanese.

Among the arrested were Yoshihiro Ise, 40, and Shigenao Cho, 52, who have been identified as members of different crime syndicates. The five Japanese were all residents of Hokkaido, the police said.

All the detained Chinese, including 22 aged under 20 and therefore minors under Japanese law, reportedly came from the southeastern Chinese province of Fujian.

Some of the detained Chinese told KYODO News Service on Sunday that they were lured to Japan with promises of jobs and that the four Japanese seamen are members of an organization engaged in smuggling Chinese into Japan and placing them in employment. They

said they left Wenzhou in Fujian Province on March 29 on a Chinese ship and transferred to the Japanese boat in the East China Sea.

Abe and the three other seamen have denied they were trying to smuggle the Chinese into Japan, maintaining they were just asked by "someone" to take the Chinese to Nagasaki. Cho is believed to have been waiting in Kyushu to act as an escort for the Chinese when they landed, investigative sources said.

Miyazawa Opposes UN Sanctions Against DPRK

OW0904124693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1236 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Friday he is opposed to slapping economic sanctions on North Korea to punish it for withdrawing from a nuclear controls agreement. "It would not be effective for the United Nations Security Council to impose economic sanctions on North Korea over its withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty," Miyazawa said in policy consultations with Sadao Yamahana, head of the leading opposition Social Democratic Party.

Miyazawa made the remark after Yamahana called for cooperation with the United States to seek a reversal of North Korea's March 12 announcement that it would withdraw from the treaty. The matter has been referred to the United Nations, which is mulling options such as economic sanctions.

Miyazawa also told Yamahana that Foreign Minister Kabun Muto will address Russia's sea disposal of nuclear waste when he meets with his Russian counterpart Andrey Kozyrev next week. Miyazawa also held policy consultations with leaders of three other opposition parties, Komeito, the Japanese Communist Party, and the Democratic Socialist Party.

Sweden's Bildt: DPRK Sanctions 'Possible'

OW0904111693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1053 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt said Friday international sanctions against North Korea are possible if Pyongyang does not change its position on nuclear development.

Bildt said in an interview he agreed with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa earlier in the day that increasing political pressure on North Korea is important for the time being. He said he agreed with Miyazawa on the "gravity of what the North Koreans are trying to do" and that it is not only a threat to regional security but also to global stability.

Japan is likely to take up the issue at the Group of Seven summit meeting in Tokyo in July, he said.

North Korea announced March 12 it would pull out of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, refusing to allow international inspection of two suspect facilities.

At a separate press conference at the Japan National Press Club, Bildt said sanctions are "one of the weapons available for the international community" if discussions at the U.N. Security Council are not successful in changing Pyongyang's position. "It is important to make clear that if they don't (comply), the international community is ready to go further and that sanctions are possible," he said.

However, Bildt also said in the interview he hopes North Korea will back down, saying the world must "give them the possibility of changing their minds." He said consultations should go on until mid-June, when North Korea's withdrawal from the treaty becomes valid.

He said Sweden has a "sort of" embassy in North Korea but it remains to be seen whether it would be closed.

Backs Tokyo on Disputed Islands

OW0904065393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0553 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt expressed support Friday for Japan's position on a territorial dispute with Russia, a Foreign Ministry official said. Bildt told Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa that Japan's claim to four islands off Hokkaido is legally justified, the official said.

Bildt made the comment when Miyazawa briefed Bildt on Tokyo's decision to host a meeting of foreign and finance ministers from Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized nations on April 14 and 15 on emergency aid to Russia, despite its dispute with Russia. Bildt praised Japan for the decision, and said it is important for the industrialized world to involve Russia in its affairs, the official said.

Japan is seeking Russian recognition of its sovereignty over four islands, seized by the Soviet Army at the close of World War II, prior to entering a peace treaty or extending major bilateral economic assistance to Moscow. But Tokyo has recently played down the dispute in light of its central role in coordinating aid to Russia as this year's host of the annual Group of Seven (G-7) summit.

Assistance to Russia will be a central theme at the July 7 to 9 Tokyo economic summit, to be joined by leaders of Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and the United States.

The Swedish premier invited Miyazawa to pay a visit to northern Europe, the official said.

Bildt is in Tokyo through next Wednesday [14 April] on an unofficial visit to attend a meeting of the International Democratic Union, a conservative parliamentarians' forum.

Engineering Troops Return From Cambodia

OW0804102193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0948 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Nagoya, April 8 KYODO—A group of 300 Ground Self-Defense Force (SDF) engineers who spent six months in Cambodia with United Nations peacekeepers returned to Japan on Thursday, the same day as some of their replacements arrived.

Coincidentally, a Japanese U.N. volunteer was shot dead in the central Cambodian province of Kompong Thom.

The returnees, part of Japan's first contingent of peacekeepers to Cambodia, arrived at the Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) Komaki Base in Aichi Prefecture. They flew home from Takeo, southern Cambodia, via Thailand on flights chartered by UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia].

Another 300 engineers, including their commanding officer Lt. Col. Takashi Watanabe, will arrive at Komaki on Saturday. They were part of the 22,000-strong UNTAC force in the strife-torn country.

The plane carrying the first batch touched down at Nagoya Airport at 2:50 P.M. About 400 relatives were waiting for the soldiers after they completed immigration formalities.

Strict security prevailed at the airport where ASDF and commercial aircraft share the same runway. Airport authorities closed off an observation deck normally open to the public. Citizens' groups opposed to the dispatch of SDF personnel to Cambodia staged protests outside the airport.

In total, Japan will dispatch 600 replacement engineers as its second contingent to Cambodia and 88 of them arrived in Phnom Penh on Thursday. By Sunday, all 600 of the new troops will be in Cambodia to help rebuild roads and bridges in the south and help keep the peace during next month's election. They get to work about April 20.

The UNTAC forces were dispatched under the authority of a peace accord signed in Paris in October 1991, when three guerrilla groups and the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government agreed to end the 13-year-long armed conflict.

Second Group of Troops Leaves for Cambodia

OW0904045593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0352 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Chitose, Hokkaido, April 9 KYODO—A second contingent of engineering troops left here Friday for Cambodia to replace 600 Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) peacekeepers sent there six months ago. The unit left Chitose Air Base of the Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) near Sapporo aboard a jumbo jet chartered by the United Nations.

The 243 troops will join a 56-member advance team and 300 others who departed Wednesday. They are part of the 22,000-strong UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia.

The dispatch came one day after a Japanese civilian volunteer was shot dead by suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas in central Cambodia. Atsuhito Nakata, 25, was one of 30 Japanese volunteers in the strife-torn country to monitor upcoming elections. He is the first Japanese victim in a spate of attacks against UN personnel.

The new engineering unit will start repairing damaged roads and bridges in southern parts of Phnom Penh from around April 20 and finish in late October.

They will also take charge of securing and transporting ballot boxes and food for election monitors during the polls in May. The general election, the first of in Cambodia in more than 40 years, is set for May 23 to 27 under the initiative of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

All 600 of the first batch of GSDF personnel will be back in Japan by Saturday.

Muto Cautious About Peace Efforts in Cambodia

OW0904064093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0558 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Newly appointed Foreign Minister Kabun Muto said Friday he is investigating the slaying of a Japanese UN volunteer in Cambodia to see if it invalidated conditions for Japan's involvement in peacekeeping efforts there. "I want to make a judgment about whether the five conditions stipulated in the UN peacekeeping law were broken. I am investigating the facts (of the incident)," Muto told the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee.

He was commenting on the killing Thursday of Atsuhito Nakata, 25, who was shot by suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas in central Kompong Thom Province. Nakata is the first Japanese victim since the UN peacekeeping operation began last year.

Muto's remarks were in sharp contrast to those earlier by Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono, who said the killing did not violate conditions for Japan's role in UN peacekeeping activities and that there will be no change of schedule in its Cambodian efforts. The conditions include a cease-fire and assurances that Japanese personnel will not be drawn into combat.

Shunji Yanai, head of the International Peace Cooperation headquarters, also told the lower house panel that the conditions for Japan are still met despite Thursday's incident. "An accord on a cease-fire in a disarmed Cambodia is the way it has to be. But realistically, a ceasefire agreement can be maintained even in a highly armed situation," he said.

Yanai also said it is not time for Tokyo to consider suspending its activities in Cambodia or withdrawing

personnel. But he said Japan must look at all possibilities, and added that the Defense Agency is doing just that.

"In the world, there are conflicts with various backgrounds. Sometimes Japan's conditions are met, but sometimes they are considered met even though there are some instable factors," he said.

Japan sent its first UN peacekeeping troops to Cambodia last September after years of debate over whether this violates the post-World War II pacifist Constitution. The Constitution bans the use of force as a means of resolving international disputes.

Civil Service Union Against Cambodian Dispatch

OW0904090493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0833 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—The union of prefectural and municipal public servants has submitted a petition to the Home Affairs Ministry calling for the scrapping of plans to dispatch some of its members to Cambodia to assist with elections there next month, union officials said Friday. The All-Japan Prefectural and Municipal Workers' Union argued that the conditions for the dispatch spelled out in last year's controversial peacekeeping cooperation bill have been undermined with the growing number of attacks on peacekeepers in Cambodia.

On Thursday, a United Nations volunteer from Japan was fatally shot in central Cambodia while assisting with preparations for general elections scheduled for the end of May. Japan planned to dispatch about 50 monitors to Cambodia in may to assist with monitoring the election, with some 20 of the personnel coming from prefectural and municipal administrations.

The union had been asking for a freeze on the dispatch until the five principles of the Peacekeeping Law can be guaranteed. Included in the principles is a claim that the Japanese Government would withdraw peacekeepers if a cease-fire agreement among the Cambodian parties concerned were broken. Escalation in attacks on peacekeepers in Cambodia, however, has prompted the union to demand the mission be canceled.

Miyazawa Schedules Visit to Australia

OW0904132293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1316 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa plans to visit Australia and New Zealand in late April and early May for talks with leaders of the two Pacific countries ahead of the July summit meeting in Tokyo of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial nations, government sources said Friday.

Miyazawa plans to visit the countries in the first half of "Golden Week," the week between April 29 and May 5, which includes three national holidays, the sources said.

The prime minister visited four countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in January to secure a voice as the sole representative of the Asia-Pacific region at the summit.

No Japanese prime minister has visited either of the countries since former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita visited Australia in 1988 and former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone visited New Zealand in 1985.

1992 Aid to Developing Countries Up 7.2 Percent

OW0804122693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1113 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—Japan's grant aid to developing countries in fiscal 1992, ended on March 31, totaled 227.8 billion yen, up 7.2 percent from the previous year, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday. Japan gave aid in 621 instances, a 16.1 percent increase, the ministry said.

Aid to developing Asian countries, which accounted for 45.5 percent of the total, was nearly the same as the previous years.

Seven of the 10 top recipients were Asian countries. Among them were Bangladesh, China and the Philippines.

Africa got a 35.6 percent share, followed by Latin America with 8.8 percent and the Mideast with 5.5 percent.

Cambodia, Vietnam and Syria were among new recipients of Japanese grant aid.

Aid was distributed in the form of grants, nonproject assistance, disaster relief, food and emergency aid, ministry officials said.

Chamber of Commerce Chief Urged To Retain Post

OW0804131293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0927 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—Members of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry have called on their chairman, Rokuro Ishikawa, to remain in office despite a scandal involving disgraced political kingpin Shin Kanemaru, a senior chamber official said Thursday.

Shoichi Tanimura, managing director of the chamber, said most executive members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry urged Ishikawa at a meeting the same day to remain in his post to work out measures to help small businesses weather the nation's economic slump. Ishikawa serves as chairman of both chambers.

The meeting was called after the national chamber distributed a circular to the heads of its 305 branches across the nation earlier Thursday saying Ishikawa will remain as chairman. The move was in response to news

reports that Ishikawa, who is also chairman of major general contractor Kajima Corp., will resign to take responsibility for his company's alleged links to a political scandal involving Kanemaru.

Kanemaru, former vice president of the Liberal Democratic Party, was accused of accumulating a fortune by using his influence in the construction industry. He has been indicted on tax evasion charges.

At Thursday's meeting, Ishikawa apologized to the attendants over the affair, Tanimura said.

Miyazawa Welcomes Stock Market Upturn

OW0704082293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0442 GMT 7 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa described as good news Wednesday reports that the key index on the Tokyo Stock Exchange climbed above the 20,000 line for the first time in about a year. Miyazawa told reporters the development indicates the Japanese economy has begun to pick up.

Kono Welcomes Tokyo Stock Market 'Upsurge'

OW0704112893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0932 GMT 7 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 7 KYODO—Chief government spokesman Yohei Kono welcomed Wednesday's upsurge on the Tokyo Stock Exchange where the key indicator climbed past the critical 20,000 level briefly for the first time in about a year.

"It is welcome if the stock prices reflected the fundamental factors of the Japanese economy," Chief Cabinet Secretary Kono told a news conference. He quoted market observers as saying Wednesday's rally on the stock exchange was due to an improvement in indicators showing the scale of domestic economic recovery.

Other favorable factors, according to senior government officials, are the enactment of the 1993 fiscal budget and the government's decision to implement a record pump-priming package. Recovery of stock prices for Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. also was responsible for the market rally, the officials said.

Finance Official Says Economy at Crossroads

OW0704111493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1001 GMT 7 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 7 KYODO—Despite Wednesday's strong rise in Tokyo stock prices, a senior Ministry of Finance (MOF) official said the government cannot assume the economy will pick up without additional fiscal measures. The official said the economy is at a crossroads and further pump-priming is needed to get it back on track.

The official, declining to be named, said brighter signs are appearing, and he cited bullish Tokyo stock prices which earlier in the day briefly topped the 20,000 mark for the first time in more than a year. The government is expected to announce an economic stimulus program next week that could be bigger in scale than a package introduced last August.

The official said the government must keep a close watch for signs of another "bubble" economy emerging, and take appropriate steps to ensure it does not.

Ministry: Foreign Reports Err on Fiscal Package

OW0804125893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1212 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—The Finance Ministry said Thursday there has been some inaccurate reporting by the foreign press about the effect of the government's 10.7 trillion yen fiscal stimulus package unveiled last August. The package included items like 3.9 trillion yen worth of public works spending and 800 billion yen for housing loans.

The ministry said the economic effect for the first 12 months of the program was calculated by subtracting 2.7 trillion yen—for land purchases and loans to smaller firms—from the 10.7 trillion yen total and multiplying by 1.39, the multiplier of the fourth world economic model. It said items like tax incentives on capital spending, additional plant and equipment expenditure by electric power companies, and steps to activate the securities market are not included in the calculation.

A ministry official said issuing this information is not directly linked with the scheduled announcing of a new fiscal package next week.

Tokyo Urges Rice Production To Meet Needs

OW0904020393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0050 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Japan should establish a balanced rice production system to meet demand for different types of rice need for different uses, a government report said Friday. The fiscal 1992 annual report on agriculture, compiled by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and endorsed by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's cabinet, said that a stable production and collection system must be set up to balance demand and supply.

Currently, paddy-farmers prefer to grow high-quality, high-priced rice known as "jishu-ryutsu-mai," leading to a shortage of lower-priced "seifu-mai" rice and other types of rice for miscellaneous uses, the report said. Jishu-ryutsu-mai can be sold on the free market, although its production is government-controlled, while seifu-mai is sold directly to the government for distribution at cheaper prices.

Jishu-ryutsu-mai accounted for 79.1 percent of the total rice supply in 1991, up from 56.7 percent in 1986, while seifu-mai dropped to 20.9 percent from 43.3 percent, the report said.

Stocks of rice, Japan's staple food, remain at a low level partly because of a bad harvest in 1991. Also, although per capita rice consumption has been declining, the rate of decline has slowed recently, the report said.

Although consumption of meat, milk, and dairy products has grown rapidly, the Japanese Diet remains quite well balanced, positioned between that of Western countries, characterized by high consumption of meat and fat, and that of other Asian nations, where grain consumption is high, it said.

As the world's largest net importer of agricultural products since 1984, Japan produced just 46 percent of the calories consumed by its people in 1991, down 27 percentage points from 1965, the report said. Because any further dependence on outside food sources, or any further reduction in domestic agricultural production could threaten the stability of its food supply, Japan must maintain sufficient production capacity to ensure a stable supply and to be able to deal with unexpected contingencies, it said.

In particular, the report said, Japan cannot accept a proposal to convert all nontariff import barriers into tariffs, which would lead to the lifting of its long-standing ban on rice imports. That proposal was made by the director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.

The report also said that food prices in major foreign cities are about 30 percent lower than in Tokyo partly due to Japan's relatively higher wages and land prices. The report then stressed the need to further cut costs in every stage from production through consumption so that domestic farm production can be maintained as the country becomes more internationalized.

Computer Makers Decide To Seek Subsidies

OW0704082593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0405 GMT 7 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 7 KYODO—An association of Japanese computer makers decided Wednesday to seek government subsidies for employment adjustments in the face of slumping computer sales, association officials said.

The Japan Electronic Industry Development Association will apply later this month to the Labor Ministry for the subsidies, the officials said. The move would be the first such application made by computer manufacturers, following applications for similar subsidies by the computer software and semiconductor industries.

The subsidies are provided to industries that have posted year-on-year production falls for three consecutive months and are implementing employment adjustments, including personnel transfers. The money may be used to pay costs stemming from personnel transfers and training. Among other industries, steel, audio-visual, and machine tool manufacturers have already applied for the subsidies.

Honda Complains About U.S.-Made Cars Label

OW0904143593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1412 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Don't call it "a reverse import car."

That message is from Honda Motor Co., which became the top-selling maker of imported cars in Japan last month as sales of cars built at its U.S. factories outnumbered sales of German models for the first time.

The phrase "reverse import car" refers to a car made in Japan for export but imported back into Japan. The word is widely used to describe a car built at Japanese-owned factories abroad and imported into Japan.

But Honda says its U.S.-made cars such as the Accord wagon and coupe are "genuine imports," because they are designed by Americans and produced mostly by Americans.

Honda, the Japanese pioneer in producing cars in the United States, says about 90 percent of the workers at its U.S. factories are Americans.

"In a sense that they (the cars) come back after being raised in the United States, there is blood relationship. But their nationality is the United States," says an official at Honda.

What is behind Honda's argument are fears that the word reverse import implies that cars made in U.S. factories are virtually made in Japan.

Toyota Motor Corp., which began importing a station wagon made at its U.S. factory last September, backs Honda. "We don't mind if the word is used in daily conversation, but in our official documents, cars built abroad are defined as imports," an official at Toyota says.

March Domestic Minivehicle Sales Increase

OW0704082993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0612 GMT 7 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 7 KYODO—Domestic minivehicle sales in March rose from the previous year for the first time in six months but total sales for fiscal 1992 remained below the previous-year level, an industry association reported Wednesday.

The Japan Minivehicles Association said sales of minivehicles with engine capacity of less than 660 cc totaled 212,422 units in March, up a modest 0.6 percent over the

year before. It was the first year-on-year rise since last September, the association said.

The association said the March results, coupled with increased sales of larger vehicles in the same month, were seen as a sign of recovery in the domestic auto market.

Sales of minicars in March totaled 111,422 units, up 3.0 percent over the year before, setting a record for the month. The previous high of 110,491 units was set in March 1991, the association said. Commercial minivehicles accounted for 101,000 units, down 1.9 percent from the year before.

The association said sales for fiscal 1992, which ended March 31, totaled 1,610,418 units, down 8.0 percent from the previous year.

Minicars accounted for 769,604 units, down 7.9 percent, while commercial minivehicles were down 8.1 percent at 840,814 units, it said.

Mitsubishi Unveils 'Efficient' Solar Battery

OW0804113393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0835 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 8 KYODO—Mitsubishi Electric Co. said Thursday [8 April] it has developed a low cost, highly efficient solar battery that uses silicon film to convert energy. It said the battery achieved an energy conversion rate of 14.2 percent, the world's highest for similar products using silicon film. The conversion rate could be raised to 18 percent in a few years, the company said.

It said the battery features a silicon film just 60 microns thick. One micron equals one-thousandth of a millimeter. The device requires only one-tenth the amount of silicon needed for conventional silicon crystal batteries and its electricity production cost will be about 200 to 300 yen per watt, or less than half that of conventional types, the company said.

The company said the battery absorbs more of the sun's energy than conventional devices, and that once trapped it reflects repeatedly within the pyramid-type crystal silicon texture. These features boost the energy conversion rate.

Commercial production could begin in a few years, company officials said.

Scrambles by ASDF Fighters Decline in FY92

OW0904125193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1239 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Interceptor fighters of the Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) took to the air 331 times in fiscal 1992 to intercept unidentified planes, down 157, or 32 percent, from fiscal 1991, Defense Agency officials said Friday. The number of ASDF scrambles each year has been falling since fiscal 1989 and it was the first time since fiscal 1976 the yearly number of scrambles was under 400, the officials said.

The ASDF attributed the sharp fall in the number of scrambles to decreased reconnaissance flights by Russian aircraft. They said Russia had fewer reconnaissance flights in fiscal 1992, which ended March 31, than it did in fiscal 1991.

The Russians, however, invaded Japanese airspace a record three times in fiscal 1992.

Russian military aircraft accounted for more than 90 percent of the targets of the 331 scrambles, the officials said. The other aircraft were from the United States, China, Taiwan and South Korea.

Fighters from the ASDF's western air force had 94 scrambles, up 64 in fiscal 1991, the officials said. The western air force covers Kyushu and surrounding areas in western Japan.

The increase of the scrambles in Kyushu was caused by the resumption of the U.S.-South Korean "Team Spirit" military exercise in March, the officials said. Russian military aircraft had more reconnaissance flights over western Japan during the exercise than it did in fiscal 1991 when the exercise was canceled.

DA Reports on FY92 Defense Contracts Total

OW0904120693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1149 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Procurement contracts concluded in fiscal 1992 increased about 4.3 percent over the year before to 10,347 in number but their value dropped about 2.4 percent to 1.38 trillion yen, the Defense Agency [DA] said Friday. The agency said it was the second consecutive year that the value of contracts shrank from the year before. The procurement involved fighters, destroyers, tanks and necessary material, it said.

Contracts signed by the Maritime Self-Defense Force accounted for 465.3 billion yen while those by the Air and Ground Self-Defense Forces amounted to 427.3 billion yen and 344.8 billion yen, respectively, the agency said.

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd., which manufactures fighter interceptors and tanks, was the top supplier with contracts totaling 339.2 billion yen, followed by Kawasaki Heavy Industries Ltd. with 113.4 billion yen and Mitsubishi Electric Corp. with 108.9 billion yen, the agency said.

Striped Dolphin Catches' Ceiling 'Sharply Cut'

OW0704135093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1311 GMT 7 Apr 93

[Text] Tokyo, April 7 KYODO—The Fisheries Agency has sharply cut its self-imposed ceiling on this year's catch of striped dolphins in response to mounting calls for a ban on catches of the endangered species, agency

sources said Wednesday. The agency also virtually banned fishermen from catching Pacific white-sided dolphins and common dolphins, whose population conditions are not known. The changes have been notified to eight concerned prefectures, including Hokkaido, Aomori, Shizuoka and Okinawa.

Since 1991, the agency has set a self-imposed ceiling on dolphin catches in Japanese coastal waters due to growing international criticism against the nation's policy of allowing dolphin catching. The International Whaling Commission (IWC) adopted a proposal last year that dolphin catches be under strict control and supervision by watchdogs.

According to the ministry's notice, catches of striped dolphins have been cut to 725 this year from about 1,000 caught last year, while total catches of other types of dolphin have been reduced by up to 100 to about 21,000. Japanese fishermen caught dozens of Pacific white-sided dolphins and about 280 common dolphins last year.

North Korea

5th Session of 9th SPA Concludes in Pyongyang

7 Apr Session Adopts Unity Appeal

SK0904052993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0641 GMT 7 Apr 93

["Appeal to the 70 million fellow countrymen" adopted at the first day morning meeting of the Fifth Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly held in Mansudae Assembly Hall on 7 April, read by Paek Nam-chun, director of the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland—recorded]

[Text] An appeal to the 70 million fellow countrymen.

70 million compatriots and brothers and sisters:

The Fifth Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA], which is being convened in Pyongyang amid the whole nation's expectations and concerns, adopted the 10-point program of great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country, which the respected and beloved great leader declared as a magnificent save-the-nation measure in a bid to discuss the grave situation prevailing in our country and to overcome the current difficult situation.

Under the grim circumstances in which the danger of war has gripped our country and the cause of the national reunification is faced with a new challenge, the adoption of the program of the great unity of the whole nation is a momentous measure to jointly open up a wayout for the nation.

Today, the situation on the Korean peninsula is faced with an unpredictably dangerous phase owing to aggressions and intervention maneuvers by foreign forces.

The North-South dialogues which had been progressing after reaching an excellent agreement are deadlocked and the North-South relations have been severed. The trend of the situation going toward detente and peace have been reversed, going toward the brink of a war.

The Team Spirit joint military exercise—a preliminary nuclear test war against the North, which is the largest scale in the world—was resumed. The maneuvers of special nuclear inspections against our Republic have been constantly kicked up. Thus, the dark clouds of a nuclear war are heavily hanging over the head of the nation.

Such circumstances which threaten the existence of the whole nation are not due to our nation's will but due to the aggressions and interventions of foreign forces, including the United States.

Our nation which was divided by big powers and has been forced to all sufferings by outside forces for half a century is in danger of the holocaust of a thermonuclear war owing to the U.S. intervention. How on earth can we sit back such a situation?

The grim reality puts forward to the nation the issue—whether we have to finally fall into the prey of outside forces by maintaining the national division enforced by the foreign forces or whether we have to defend the national dignity and go forward a road to the national reunification through the unity of the fellow countrymen.

We should not at any cost follow the antinational road, which leads to self-destruction by a fight between the fellow countrymen and which gets foreign forces to fish in troubled waters.

Even though the North and the South are divided, we are the same nation linked with one blood. Even the ideologies and ideas of the North and the South are different, the North and the South are brethren who should live together on one land.

When the South of our country is rich and powerful, the North cannot feel at ease. When the North is rich and powerful, the South cannot feel at ease, either.

Our 70 million fellow countrymen are the same nation who should always share weals and woes and death and life and who should shape our destiny together. Thus, our fellow countrymen cannot be toyed with and divided into the North and the South by outside forces. Our fellow countrymen cannot go toward the tragic national self-destruction road in which the fellow countrymen are antagonistic and hostile against each other.

The only road that our nation should follow is to reject foreign forces' aggression and intervention and to achieve unity of the fellow countrymen. The great unity of the whole nation can overcome the prevailing difficult situation, put an end to the heartbreaking national division which has lasted for half a century, seek the national interests, and achieve the eternal security and prosperity of our nation and our fellow countrymen.

The 10-point program of great unity of the whole nation for the fatherland's reunification adopted at the current session of the SPA promises this kind of road for national revival. The program of great unity of the whole nation is the banner of reconciliation and unity which brings about all the fellow countrymen of the North, South, and overseas to reunification. It is also a patriotic torch light which makes it possible for our nation itself to pioneer its fate.

The program of great unity of the whole nation reveals the joint goal and cause of the nation for great unity. The principle and concrete method for the great unity are also elucidated. The duty and true patriotism of all the fellow countrymen at home and abroad will be manifested in putting into practice the program of great unity of the whole nation.

Fellow brothers and sisters: The program of great unity of the whole nation should be regarded as the common guideline of the nation. Also, regardless of whether one is from the North, South, or overseas, and whether one is a communist or a nationalist, let's all unite as one nation first.

Let's all make tangible contributions to the country's reunification and to the prosperity and development a reunified fatherland through strength by those who have strength, knowledge by those who have knowledge, and money by those who have money.

Each one of the fellow countrymen at home and abroad are a member of the nation, and their lives are the life of the nation. The whole nation links the individual's fate to the nation's fate as one. They should also unite based on the love of the nation and the spirit of national independence, the common idea of the nation.

If an ideology is apart from the common idea of the nation there can be no significance, and moreover it cannot be placed in the forefront. The love of the nation and the spirit of national independence are the spirit of the nation that finds our nation's true appearance and that make it possible to manifest sagacity and honor.

Let's all denounce flunkeyism and national nihilism with the consciousness of national identity, and highly uphold the banner of national independence. The North and South that cannot live separated share the common national fate and the nation's supreme interest lies in the fatherland's reunification.

The whole nation should promote co-existence, co-prosperity, and common interests, and all efforts should be subordinated to the cause of the fatherland's reunification. If one is truly a patriot how can they discuss the differences of ideology and idea and give priority to each other's own small interest, before the great cause of the nation?

The North and South should recognize and respect the existence of different ideologies, ideas, systems, and cooperate with each other to enjoy progress and prosperity together by giving priority to the interests of the whole nation.

The issue of the fatherland's reunification is not an issue from the class point of view but a national issue to realize the nation's sovereign right. The nation's strength should not be exhausted in the insignificant internal fight of the nation. Let us stop the political dispute of ideological fight and institutional fight between the fellow countrymen, and jointly counter aggression and interference of outside forces.

Let us dispel fears of prevailing over communism and communization and remove the threat of invasion from the South and from the North, to open a new phase of national harmony and trust. The political opponents and dissidents should join hands and those who once betrayed the nation should go together in the ranks of patriotism, looking forward to the future.

Let the politicians, businessmen, intellectuals, religionists, and soldiers join the patriotic ranks of the whole nation without hesitation, and keep step with each other in the march towards a bright future of the fatherland's reunification.

To achieve great unity and the country's reunification, the whole nation should work to find each other and call each other in the North, South, and overseas and should develop contacts, visits, and dialogue.

Let us pull down all the visible and invisible barriers dividing the nation and cutting off the bonds of the nation. Let us also dispel misunderstanding, share the same will, unite and ally with each other, and take the same action, by jumping over each other's narrow enclosure.

The supreme task of our nation is the fatherland's reunification and the goal of great unity of the whole nation is also the fatherland's reunification. Let us establish a pan-national reunified state representing all parties, factions, and all members of the nation from all walks of life in the North and South with the united strength of the whole nation.

Let us establish a confederal state in which the two regional governments of the North and South can co-exist and be represented on an equal footing, inclining neither to the North nor to the South, that is an independent, peaceful, and nonaligned neutral state which does not lean to any great power, by embodying the three principles of independence, peace, and great national unity.

Fellow brothers and sisters: The 10-point program of great unity of the whole nation for the fatherland's reunification is a joint action program of the whole nation to hasten reunification in the nineties.

People who support and put into practice the program of great unity of the whole nation, are true patriots. Let us all actively contribute to the noble cause of the fatherland's reunification, becoming ardent supporters, and courageous practicians for the program of great unity of the whole nation.

People who contributed to the great unity of the whole nation and the cause of the country's reunification will

be highly assessed in the name of a reunified state. Also, they will be remembered for a long time along with the nation's history.

If the whole nation unites, it will be the fatherland's reunification which our nation hopes for. The great unity and the fatherland's reunification will give dignity and peace to our nation, and will also give prosperity and glory which will be elucidated generation after generation. [applause]

The Fifth Session of the Ninth DPRK SPA

7 April 1993, Pyongyang [applause]

Kim Chong-il Elected Defense Commission Head

SK0904084693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0800 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA], was elected chairman of the National Defense Commission of the DPRK.

On 9 April the Fifth Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the DPRK elected Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee, secretary of the party Central Committee, and supreme commander of the KPA, as chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission.

Election of Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the KPA, as chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission is an expression of absolute trust, reflects the wish of all people, and demonstrates the firm will of our people and officers and men of the People's Army to firmly defend the revolutionary gains which were obtained with blood and to further advance and glorify popular mass-centered socialism of our own style.

Election of Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission is a political event of great significance in inheriting and accomplishing generation after generation the chuche cause of army building pioneered by the great leader and in strengthening and developing our revolutionary struggle into a new higher stage.

By upholding Comrade Kim Chong-il at the supreme position [choego suwie mosida] of our revolutionary armed forces, the whole party, all people, and the entire Army will vigorously fight to accomplish the sacred chuche revolutionary cause to the end and to achieve the historic cause of national reunification.

Yang Hyong-sop Gives Closing Speech

SK0904095693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0816 GMT 9 Apr 93

["Closing Speech" by Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly Standing Committee, at the closing session of the Fifth Session of Ninth Supreme People's Assembly at Mansudae Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on 9 April—recorded]

[Text] Comrade deputies: The Fifth Session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA], held amid the great interest of all people across the country, concludes its work after successfully discussing the items on the agenda with the active participation of comrade deputies.

The current SPA deliberated and adopted the 10-point program of great unity of the whole country for national reunification—a great reunification and political program for saving the nation which was personally prepared and forwarded to this meeting by the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song. [applause]

The 10-point program of great unity of the whole country reflects the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's lofty patriotic intention and his love for the nation and the people, and brilliantly embodies our party's consistent idea for great national unity. This program also comprehensively expounds the general goal, ideal, principle, and methods for realizing a broad range of unity of the whole country. The adoption of this program is a new epochal step toward removing the grave situation [omokhan sataerul kasida]—in which the danger of war continues to increase in our country, the cause of national reunification is facing a new challenge, and existence of the whole nation is being threatened—and toward jointly opening the road for the nation to advance. The adoption of the program is also a historic event with important significance in bringing an end to the division and confrontation that have lasted nearly half a century and in achieving the national reunification—the nation's greatest desire. [applause]

With the adoption of the 10-point program of great unity for the whole country, which will be a great epochal turning point and a milestone in the history of our people's struggle for national reunification, our 70 million fellow countrymen can prevent calamities like thermonuclear war and can more confidently open the road for reunification in the 1990's. With the adoption of this program, we are able to bring an end to the tragedy of the nation's division through the nation's independent strength. [applause]

The current SPA, reflecting our people's unanimous will and desire, elected Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee, and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA], as chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission. [applause]

This is a most significant and congratulatory political event. It enables our people more firmly to have the center of leadership [yongdoui chungsim] which will inherit and accomplish generation after generation the cause of chuche army building which was pioneered by the great leader. This is another remarkable historic

event in strengthening and developing the work of building our revolutionary armed forces into a new higher stage. [applause]

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il is a great politician who has both literary and military achievements. He is an outstanding and sagacious military commander who is leading our people and the People's Army along the single road of victory and glory with extraordinary military wisdom, outstanding leadership, incomparable courage, and lofty revolutionary comradely love. [applause]

The election of KPA Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Chong-il as the chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission is the expression of absolute trust all people have in dear Comrade Kim Chong-il and illustrates their boundless respect and ardent loyalty to him. This clearly demonstrates the unanimous wish and firm will of our people and People's Army officers and men to accomplish to the end the chuche revolutionary cause under the party's leadership. [applause]

By upholding dear Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission, our people and the People's Army are now able to defend firmly the revolutionary gains, which were obtained with blood, and to further glorify the popular mass-centered socialism of our own style by cherishing conviction in sure victory and will. [applause]

The current SPA settled the execution of last year's state budget and deliberated and decided on this year's state budget.

This year's state budget adopted at the session is a popular and dynamic budget which is formulated so as to consolidate the independent economic foundation by satisfactorily ensuring the finance required for the key tasks in socialist construction that were put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in the New Year's address and for carrying out our party's economic strategy. Thus, the budget will further upgrade the people's material and cultural living standard.

The current SPA also deliberated and adopted the Law on Underground Resources of the DPRK; and approved the Law on Foreign- Funded Enterprises and Taxes on Foreigners, the Law on Foreign Currency Control, the Law on the Free Economic and Trade Zone, and the Law on Weights and Measures that were adopted by the SPA Standing Committee during the SPA recess.

With formulation of these new laws, a legal guarantee is firmly provided so as to consolidate and further develop achievements made in exploration, development, use of the nation's underground resources, and in weights and measures, and so as to expand and develop external economic cooperation and exchange.

The entire course, in which the items on agenda were successfully discussed, vigorously demonstrated our people's firm faith and revolutionary will to achieve by all means the independent and peaceful reunification of the nation with the might of single- hearted unity under the wise leadership of the party and the leader by highly upholding the revolutionary banner of the chuche idea, and to accomplish the socialist cause to the last. [applause]

I firmly believe that the current SPA will be a new, epochal turning point in our people's struggle to accelerate more vigorously the socialist construction, to strengthen the nation's defense capability, and to expedite the cause of national reunification by upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and by following our party's guidance. I now declare the closing of the historic fifth session of the Ninth SPA. [applause] [shouting of hurrahs]

9 Apr Session Closes Assembly

SK0904110593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1050 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA)—The fifth session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the DPRK closed today after successfully discussing the agenda items.

Organizational questions, the fifth item, was discussed at today's sitting.

The chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK was elected.

The great leader President Kim Il-song recommended Comrade Kim Chong-il as chairman of the Natiopal Defence Commission of the DPRK.

The 5th session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly solemnly declared that Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Wmrkers' Party of Korea and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, was elected chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK.

At that historic moment, the deputies and all the participants of the session raised a storm of cheers "hurrah!" overflowing with emotion and excitement.

The session elected first vice-chairman of the DPRK National Defence Commission.

Deputy O Chin-u was elected first vice-chairman of the National Defence Commission of the DPRK at the proposal of President Kim Il- song.

The session discussed the question of relieving and electing chairmen of some SPA committees.

Deputy Kim Yong-sun was relieved of the post of chairman of the SPA Foreign Affairs Committee and elected chairman of the Reunification Policy Committee of the SPA.

Deputy Yun Ki-pok was relieved of the post of the SPA Reunification Policy Committee and Deputy Choe Tae-pok was elected chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the SPA.

Deputies Kang Song-san and Yi Pong-kil were relieved of the membership of the Central People's Committee and deputies Yon Hyong-muk, Yi Kun-mo and Yim Su-man were elected members of the CPC [Central People's Committee].

Deputy Han Sang-kyu was relieved of the membership of the Legislation Committee of the SPA and Deputy Yi Yong-sop, prosecutor-general of the Central Public Prosecutor's Office, and Deputy Choe Won-ik, chief justice of the Central Court, were elected members of the Legislation Committee of SPA.

The decision of the SPA of the DPRK "on the results of the fulfillment of the state budget for 1992 of the DPRK" and its ordinance "on the state budget for 1993 of the DPRK" were adopted with the unanimous approval of the deputies at the session.

Papers Laud 'Ten-Point Program' for Unity

SK0904112493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 9 Apr 93

["Implementation of Ten-point Programme of Great Unity of Whole Nation Urged"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry editorials on the "Ten-point Programme of Great Unity of the Whole Nation for Reunification of the Country" worked out personally by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song which was adopted at the fifth session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In an editorial titled "Let Us Implement the Ten-point Programme of Great Unity of the Whole Nation To Promote National Reunification" NODONG SINMUN says:

The ten-point programme that comprehensively consummates the idea of great national unity which was expounded and has been applied by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a great charter of national unity which indicates ways of tiding over the grim difficulties facing the nation with its efforts, winning peace and reunification of the country and achieving development and prosperity of the nation.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"To put a period to the nearly half a century long history of division and confrontation and reunify the country is the unanimous demand and will of the whole nation. For the independent and peaceful reunification of the country it is necessary to achieve a great unity of the whole nation."

In the programme he defines the establishment of a unified state, independent, peaceful and neutral, as the general purpose of the whole nation's great unity, patriotism and the spirit of national independence as the ideological basis of great national unity and the promotion of coexistence, coprosperity and common interests and subordination of everything to the cause of national reunification as its principles. He also shows concrete ways of achieving great national unity.

The programme serves as the most realistic and just banner of the whole nation's great unity which indicates in an allround way the fundamental questions arising in overcoming obstacles to the country's reunification at present and accomplishing the cause of reunification with concerted efforts of the nation.

It is a brilliant summing up of the wise guidance, undying feats and noble historical experience of Comrade Kim Il-song, who has victoriously led the national cause, placing the interests of the nation above anything else and relying on the united efforts of the people.

It is a patriotic programme which can be provided only by Comrade Kim Il-song who has embraced all the fellow countrymen with broadest magnanimity and put them on the road of patriotism with deep love for the country and the nation. It is also the culmination of the patriotic politics and virtuous politics of the Workers' Party of Korea.

To realise the independent and peaceful reunification of the country through the implementation of the ten-point programme is vital to the nation and to its destiny. The whole nation must support this programme and the entire fellow countrymen must carry it into effect together.

MINJU CHOSON in an editorial titled "Great Charter of National Unity Powerfully Encouraging the Entire Fellow Countrymen to Great Unity" stresses:

If all the Koreans in the North, South and overseas turn out in the patriotic cause in close unity under the ten-point programme of great unity of the whole nation, our nation will surely win a historical victory in the struggle for national reunification.

KCNA Lauds Kim Chong-il Appointment

SK0904111093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1053 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, was elected chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the fifth session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK today.

This is an expression of the entire people's undisputed trust in him and their desire and a manifestation of the unshakable will of the Korean people and the officers and men of the People's Army to defend like an impregnable fortress the gains of revolution won at the cost of blood, further advance and glorify our-style socialism centred on the popular masses.

This is a political event of great significance in carrying forward to accomplishment through generations the cause of chuche-based army building started by the great leader

President Kim Il-song and intensifying our revolutionary struggle and developing it to a new higher stage.

Atomic Minister Denounces IAEA Statement

SK0904020093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0030 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Statement issued by the DPRK minister of atomic energy industry on 8 April—read by announcer]

[Text] On 1 April during the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] Board of Governors meeting, the United States and its follower forces coercively adopted an unjust resolution on transferring our so-called nuclear issue to the United Nations. The DPRK minister of atomic energy industry issued the following statement denouncing this resolution on 8 April:

Statement by the DPRK Minister of the Atomic Energy Industry

At the 1 April IAEA Board of Governors meeting, the United States and its follower forces [chujongseryok] labeled us as not complying with the safeguards accord, and coercively adopted [kangachokuro chaetaek] an unjust resolution to transfer our so-called nuclear issue to the United Nations. This is an open hostile act [nogolchokin chokdaehaengwi] of a new level by the United States and its follower forces to internationalize [kukchehwa] our nuclear issue and crush [apsal] our socialist system through the method of carrying out collective sanctions against us.

Recognizing that the resolution of the IAEA Board of Governors meeting is a violent violation [nanpokhan wiban] of the safeguards accord and IAEA regulations, as well as a grave infringement upon our sovereign right, I resolutely denounce it.

On 10 April 1992, after the effectuation of the safeguards accord, we submitted an initial report on nuclear materials to the IAEA before the deadline according to Article 62 of the accord, and by early February [of 1993] had received six rounds of irregular [pijonggi] inspections by the IAEA verifying the correctness and completeness of the initial report according to Article 71 of the accord.

In this period we provided the IAEA's inspection team with hundreds of volumes of records and documents. We also helped the team seal the total 80 sites [taesang] designated by the team, install surveillance cameras, and collect 90 samples. On the other hand, we submitted to the IAEA [the results of] a questionnaire on designs [solgye tongbo chilmunso] related to nuclear facilities according to article 42 of the agreement, and verification of the questionnaire was also conducted during irregular inspections according to article 48 of the agreement. Thus, the general provision [chongchik] of the supplementary rules [pusok sechik] on implementing the nuclear safeguards accord was effectuated and three annexes on facilities [sisol pulok] were agreed upon on 10 July of last year, and the remaining annexes on facilities are almost complete.

During this period, the inspection team inspected all necessary nuclear-related facilities [haekkwanryon sisol] and sites, including abandoned nuclear facilities and facilities under construction, to verify the completeness [wanchonsong] of the initial report. The inspection team also examined documents related to these facilities. The documents included 18 years old documents and even our research and experiment logs which we showed out of our sincerity.

In this period we provided the inspection team sufficient conditions for the verificationo of the correctness and completeness of the initial report by displaying a high degree of spirit of cooperation. Even the IAEA stressed this fact at meetings of the IAEA Board of Governors and many other meetings. The problem is how, in spite of this, the abnormal situation in which the IAEA Board of Governors adopted an unjustifiable resolution to take our question to the United Nations on charges of non-compliance with the safeguards accord was created. There are hints of shady dealings [moryakchokin hukmakkwangye] in this, which should be laid bare.

It was from early November last year that some officials of the IAEA Secretariat abruptly began raising the fictitious problem of inconsistency. In essence, the inconsistency the IAEA talks about is caused by differences in calculating methods, interpretation, and assessment which result from a mistake of the IAEA. It is by no means a difference between our declaration and the results of the IAEA's inspection.

In the negotiations held during the sixth inspection conducted from 27 January to 6 February, the inspection team admitted the cause of this difference. Thus, the problem of inconsistency was solved and an agreement was reached on reexamining the results of the inspection by the IAEA and continuing discussions during the next inspection period.

However, before the inspection team began reexamining the inspection results in Vienna, the IAEA director-general officially demanded a special inspection of us on 9 February, thereby blocking progress of irregular inspections, which had been going on smoothly, and the road of negotiations for a solution to the problem of inconsistency. Even under such an abnormal situation our efforts to rectify the problem continued.

Last February, we sent our delegation to Vienna before the meeting of the Board of Governors was held. There, our delegation continued negotiations with IAEA officials with the director-general attending. As a result of these negotiations, the problem of inconsistency was solved again, and the director-general himself declared that he would reexamine the inspection results, saying that the IAEA may have made a mistake.

Nevertheless, at the IAEA Board of Governors' February meeting which was held the next day, the IAEA director-general shamelessly submitted a false report which runs counter to facts, making absurd remarks that the IAEA, despite its efforts, failed to verify the problem of inconsistency during the past seven months. Some officials at the IAEA Secretariat, at the Board of Governors' meeting, linked their allegations of inconsistency to the two sites in a far-fetched manner and in an effort to justify their claim, went so far as to show, in an unprecented manner, slides of fabricated intelligence satellite photos provided by the United States, our opponent in hostilities.

As far as the satellite photos are concerned, they are quite inconsistent with facts, and the explanation about them is also preposterous.

Although the inspection group had directly confirmed through on-site inspection that there was no connection between military sites [kunsadaesang] and nuclear facilities in question, some officials of the IAEA Secretariat tried to convince the governors, alleging obstinately that the trenches around the military sites [kunsadaesang] furnished clear evidence of their connection with nuclear facilities.

The U.S. CIA-provided satellite photos of our experimental nuclear power station and so-called nuclear detonator explosion testing ground are also sheer forgeries.

The IAEA inspection group confirmed on the spot that the power station had one cooling tower, not two, that there were transmission facilities, which shows the peaceful nature of our nuclear activities, and that the riverside pools are not traces of nuclear detonator explosions.

However, based on the faked-up intelligence satellite photos, some officials of the IAEA Secretariat described our two ordinary military sites [ilbangunsadaesang] as nuclear-related facilities and spread rumors that we were refusing an inspection of those facilities even though they were nuclear-related facilities.

When the IAEA director general in September of last year suddenly asked us to allow access to two sites unrelated to nuclear activities in the form of visits by some members of the IAEA's inspection group, who were on the spot for the third round inspection, we showed them in good faith, taking into consideration that it was the first request by the director general. We did not even turn down their unreasonable request for another access.

Although the agency inspectors used a radiation dose meter and even a route map to find the direction of the sites, they could not but admit that the sites were unrelated to nuclear activities.

We are compelled to pay heed to the fact that such visits by the agency followed a joint hearing of the U.S. Congress held in the presence of the director general of the IAEA on 22 July last year, at which there were calls for a challenge inspection [kisupsachal] and a special inspection of us, and, in particular, to the fact that some officials of the IAEA Secretariat recently said that if nuclear materials are not discovered at the two military sites [kunsadaesang], they must be found somewhere else.

We came to know more clearly in this course that some officials of the IAEA Secretariat invented the inconsistency under the manipulation of the United States, which tries to stifle [apsal] our Republic, and made the surprise visits based on the faked-up intelligence satellite photos and that the director general's request for a special inspection and the unreasonable resolution of the Board of Governors meeting related to it were based on a prearranged script.

Clause 2 of Article 73 of the safeguards accord and Article 77 of the accord stipulate that special inspections shall be conducted only when inexplicable inconsistencies are found during inspections based on data provided by a country that is under inspection.

The director general's proposal for a special inspection of us and the 25 February, 18 March, and 1 April resolutions adopted at the Board of Governors meetings in this regard were based on the fictitious inconsistency and faked-up intelligence information. It was a flagrant violation of the safeguards agreement. It was also a challenge to an annexed clause of Article 7 of the [IAEA's] statute that stipulates that IAEA officials shall maintain neutrality, fairness, and secrecy in carrying out their duties.

We rejected such illegal brigandish demand, and that is the first reason why it charged us with noncompliance with the safeguards agreement.

Another reason is that we refused to receive the irregular inspection group of the agency for three months until the withdrawal from the NPT takes effect after the declaration of it.

This is a brigandish logic reversing black and white.

We had consistently called for solving all the problems in the implementation of the agreement through irregular inspections and negotiations in the past.

However, some officials of the IAEA Secretariat said that the issue raised in implementing the accord cannot be resolved through the irregular [pijonggi] inspection and negotiations. They are enforcing the unjust special inspection on us, and they themselves prevented the road for irregular inspection and negotiations.

Even under this kind of abnormal situation, proceeding from the position of implementing our obligations under the safeguards accord for three months, we clearly proposed to the IAEA side on 30 March to carry out negotiations in this regard. However, some officials of the IAEA Secretariat ignored our proposal, and answered it by adopting an unjust resolution to transfer our issue to the United Nations.

This is a violation of Article 3 of the safeguards accord which stipulates cooperation in implementing it, and of

Clause 2 of Article 3 of the statute of the accord which calls for respecting the sovereign right of the given country in implementing the accord. This clearly shows that the United States and some officials of the IAEA following it are the very ones who made it impossible for us to implement the obligations of the safeguards accord during the three month period.

The IAEA Secretariat has no legal ground to conclude that it is not able to verify that there has been no diversion of nuclear materials to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. Therefore, the adoption of the resolution on transferring our issue to the United Nations by labeling us as not complying with it, is a grave violation of the safeguards accord.

All these facts clearly prove that there are neither scientific and technical grounds nor legal reasons to drag our nuclear issue to the UN arena by labeling us as not complying with it. It is not us that did not comply with the safeguards accord, but some officials of the IAEA Secretariat engineered by the United States.

Some officials of the IAEA Secretariat can never evade from the responsibility for violently violating the statute of the IAEA and the safeguards accord and joining the United States in its political and military plot to crush [apsal] our Republic.

The United Nations should not discuss our nuclear issue but raise the question of the conspiracy of the United States and some officials of the IAEA Secretariat to abuse the statute of the IAEA and the safeguards accord. No one has the right to wrongly interpret or violate the related articles of the statute of the IAEA and the safeguards accord.

If the use of intelligence data provided by a third country is allowed in inspections, the inherent character and content of the current IAEA's inspection system should be completely changed. If the use of intelligence data provided by a third country is allowed in inspections, the IAEA will be degraded as a political tool of some countries that have means of satellite intelligence. This is a very serious issue related to the agency's existence of the safeguards system, bringing about deep worry.

Some officials of the IAEA Secretariat should not reduce themselves to become culprits serving the United States in its antirepublic scheming maneuver, which is to open one by one all of our general military bases through forced special inspection. Rather they should guarantee strict fairness in abiding by the safeguards accord and the statute of the IAEA.

We resolutely denounce the IAEA Director General's call for special inspection and the unjust resolutions adopted at the IAEA Board of Governors meetings. This is to defend our country's sovereign right and at the same time to prevent despotism of specific countries.

There is no change in our position to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Consistent is our stand to discharge our obligations under the safeguards accord and resolve issues arising in this regard through negotiations.

Through this opportunity, I express the hope that the governments of all countries, international organizations, and the peace-loving people around the world who value peace and justice, will extend support and solidarity to our people's just cause of obstructing and frustrating the plots of the United States and its follower forces to crush [apsal] our socialist system, removing the nuclear threat from the Korean peninsula, and safeguarding peace and security.

Military Commentator Denounces Team Spirit

SK0904081993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0018 GMT 6 Apr 93

[NODONG SINMUN 6 April article by Kwon Kyong-tae, commentator for military affairs, entitled "What Does the Team Spirit-93 Joint Military Exercise Show?"]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise in South Korea, defying the unanimous opposition and denunciation of the entire nation and peaceloving people of the world.

After concluding the field mobilization training of the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets raved that this training was a defensive exercise aimed at dealing with someone else's nuclear issue, and so forth.

However, their remarks were nothing but a clumsy excuse to conceal the aggressive and offensive nature of the Team Spirit joint military exercise.

The Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise was a preliminary war and a test nuclear war, which was conducted as a vicious attempt to militarily threaten and crush [apsalhada] the socialist system in the northern half of our Republic.

At the beginning of the 1990's, the U.S. Administration put forward a so-called strategy for resolution of regional disputes, claiming that the blockade strategy against one superpower, which served as the basis of U.S. military strategy for 40 years, had come to an end.

The U.S. imperialists said the Korean peninsula is the most dangerous place in the world at present for large-scale disputes, and babbled that deterring crisis and dispute in this area is the impending task in their new military strategy.

This illustrates that the U.S. imperialists, directing the spearhead of regional strategy to Korea, are scheming to invade our Republic at any cost.

Agreements, including a nonaggression pledge, and joint denuclearization declaration between the North and the South, were adopted and effectuated, and as a result, the situation on the Korean peninsula was moving toward detente and reunification. Then, however, the U.S. imperialists, along with the puppets, resumed the Team Spirit joint military exercise, which they had suspended last year. This clearly proves that they do not want the peaceful resolution of the Korean question but are trying to realize their ambition of dominating all of Korea by force.

The current Team Spirit joint military exercise was conducted as a criminal attempt to provoke a northward war of aggression and by internationalizing it, to realize the aim of aggression in one breath.

As is known, the U.S. imperialists, raving that now, when the cold war system of East-West confrontation is destroyed, is the golden age for UN peace-keeping activities, thinking they can invade any place they want and can conclude a war through all-out surprise attack by internationalizing the war.

The United States has become more arrogant because of the Persian Gulf war. The U.S. imperialists put forward a new pretext on the North's so-called nuclear issue while staging the recent Team Spirit joint military exercise. By instigating some circles in the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA], they made it adopt a resolution enforcing a special inspection of military objects [kunsa taesang] in our Republic. This was really prompted by a criminal aim to provoke a northward war of aggression and to work out an excuse to internationalize it.

Foreign reports have stated that whether or not there are nuclear weapons in the North is not important to the United States, and that the United States is attempting to induce changes in the North by playing the nuclear issue card, and to continually take advantage of the nuclear issue under the pretext that North Korea is hiding nuclear weapons even if it accepts the nuclear inspection. Such comment is no accident.

As clearly shown by facts, the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise by the U.S. imperialists and the puppets was a very dangerous act of war designed to stifle [apsal] our Republic, which is vigorously marching along the socialist road, and provoke a nuclear war of northward aggression anytime by finding fault with the so-called nuclear issue of the North.

The Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise was conducted as part of the vicious, criminal plan for aggression by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, and was more aggressive than any other time. In this exercise, the U.S. imperialists and the puppets newly deployed the very large aircraft carrier Independence; the nuclear-powered cruiser California loaded with guided missiles; the Belleau Wood, a carrier of helicopters for landing; and various other combat vessels. They also newly deployed the nuclear-loaded B-1B strategic bombers; the Pioneer, an unmanned remote-controlled fighter plane; F-117 Stealth fighter-bombers, which were reportedly proven to be high-technology weapons during the Persian Gulf war; Patriot guided missiles; other weapons of a new generation; and massive forces of aggression approximately 200,000 strong, including quick reaction and deployment forces from the U.S. mainland and the Asian-Pacific region.

The war exercise which was conducted on land and sea and in the air was a game of fire designed to launch surprise three-dimensional attacks against frontline areas and rear areas on the northern half of the Republic.

The exercise started with the Pohang Landing operation, the first of field drills. Exercises for northward aggression were comprehensively and repeatedly conducted through South Korea. Timed with large-scale landing operations, aircraft of the puppet Air Force and the U.S. Air Force conducted joint interception exercises and nuclear bomb dropping exercises in the air. Transport planes that flew in after being refueled in the air in the skies over the Pacific conducted an exercise to drop airborne troops.

On the ground, massive forces successively conducted exercises involving achieving breakthroughs by launching nuclear strikes and using a large number of tanks and armored personnel carriers; breaking through obstacles in the rivers; and launching ground attack operations designed to conduct battles of encirclement and march onward close to the Demarcation Line in cooperation with ground-warfare units. Such comprehensive and three-dimensional war exercises were conducted almost daily.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets conducted various exercises for northward aggression code-named Team Spirit every year. However, they had not conducted comprehensive and three-dimensional exercises all at the same time in the air and on land and sea, contrary to what they are doing this year.

Also, what is noteworthy is the fact that the U.S. imperialists and the puppets mapped out a plan to bomb from the air and destroy military headquarters, radar detection bases, air bases, and other command and control centers of the opposing side at the initial stage of an emergency on the Korean peninsula and frantically conducted an exercise to carry out an operation for implementing this plan. This is a scenario that the United States used during the Persian Gulf war. This is a dangerous operational exercise designed to make the opposing side's military command structure and military forces powerless and open a favorable phase in a war of aggression by launching preemptive strikes from the air and launching missile strikes.

During the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets conducted not only a field drill but also a command training exercise. This cannot be overlooked. As is known, a command training exercise is a joint exercise involving

commanders and general-staff members who will personally organize and command combat and operations in a war. Command is a basic means for joint operations and a basis for conducting close joint operations.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets mobilized commanders and general-staff members of units of all armed services and their branches that will be deployed in a Korean war and had them participate in this exercise. This means that the enemy intended to mobilize the units that were mobilized in the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise in an actual attack against us, bring in other units from overseas to rapidly beef up forces, and complete a unified command and joint operation system.

All facts show that using the nonexistent nuclear issue of the North as a pretext, the U.S. imperialists and the puppets are trying to launch preemptive nuclear strikes against major targets on the northern half of the Republic, conduct offensive operations against our ?ntline and rear areas from the air, land, and sea, and rapidly bring in forces from overseas, thus fulfilling their aggressive ambition.

The U.S. imperialists have already turned South Korea into a military base and a forward nuclear base, brought in massive forces and operational equipment, and deployed them for actual combat purposes. It is well known that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have conducted war exercises for northward aggression codenamed Team Spirit 17 times. In this course, they have completed operational plans to rapidly deploy forces and launch northward aggression, acquainted themselves with campaign plans, and perfected a unified command and joint operation system.

The United States has emerged as the only superpower after the balance of power was destroyed in international relations. Therefore, no one can guarantee that the United States, with this occasion, will not drive its aggressive forces and puppet's armed force to war to invade the North at its will. The Team Spirit-93 Joint Military Exercise conducted by the U.S. imperialists and South Korean puppets, in reality, strained the situation on the Korean peninsula so extremely that a grave touch-and-go situation in which war can break out at any time was created.

In response to such a grave situation, the Korean People's Army supreme commander gave an order of state of semi-war to the whole country, all the people, and the entire Army. The Republic's Government made clear its official position to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]. This is a due self-defensive measure to defend the nation's dignity and sovereignty and the people's security and interests. This also speaks for a resolute position of our party and the Republic's Government to smash the aggressors' insidious plot timely.

Under our party's wise leadership, the whole country, all the people, and the entire Army rose up unanimously like a mountain with a tragic resolution to smash the enemies at a stroke if they pounce upon us and entered into a complete combat mobilization posture. Thus, they frustrated the enemies' imminent attempt to invade and demonstrated at home and abroad the mettle of our nation who values independence as a life, and the might of our Republic which no one can provoke.

The Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise conducted by the U.S. imperialists and South Korean puppets froze all dialogues that had smoothly progressed between the North and the South, suspended the implementation of historic North-South agreement and Joint Declaration on Denuclearization, and drove the situation on the Korean peninsula to a dangerous phase of the eve of war. The Team Spirit joint military exercise devastated a great deal of farm land in South Korea and inflicted a great loss upon people's lives and properties.

The U.S. imperialists and their puppets try to embellish the Team Spirit joint military exercise with a color of peace while raving that the exercise does not affect dialogues, that the exercise was scaled down, and that the exercise period was shortened. It is, however, a useless thing. They committed a crime of worsening North-South relations and inflicting a great loss upon the people by resuming the Team Spirit joint military exercise. Accordingly, they should be subject to severe judgment by history and the people in connection with this crime alone.

After concluding the full-fledged field mobilization training of the Team Spirit joint military exercise, the U.S. imperialists found fault with the self-defensive measure of our Republic's Government which withdrew from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, internationalized the North's nuclear issue, and viciously maneuvered to provoke a new war under the pretext of resolving the nuclear issue. The U.S. imperialists are attempting to accomplish their aggressive ambition at all costs, which they failed to realize during 1950's. They are desperately running amok to destroy our Republic, the fortress of socialism. However, the U.S. imperialists and their puppets are seriously miscalculating it. Although the U.S. imperialists forced a three-year war upon us by mobilizing the army of the 15 follower countries and puppet in a bid to swallow our young Republic in a breath, only bodies and death awaited the aggressors as a result.

Our people are not feeble-minded people who will be scared by or give in to someone else's threat. The more frantically the enemies attempt to provoke us, the more our people are the heroic people who are united single-mindedly around the party and the leader and resolutely stand face to face against the provocation with a death-defying resolution.

The United States should renounce its vain dream, suspend the criminal Team Spirit joint military exercise forever, and completely withdraw its aggressive forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea. The South Korean ruling clique should no longer cling to the

antinational criminal act of attempting to sacrifice fellow countrymen in collusion with outside force.

Our people will singlemindedly unite around the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander and safeguard the party, the leader, and the system of socialism of our style as an impregnable fortress.

Russian Embassy Marks Anniversary of Agreement

SK0904102293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 6 Apr 93

[Text] The Russian Embassy in our country arranged a goodwill meeting on 6 April to mark the 44th anniversary of the DPRK-Russia Agreement on Economic and Cultural Cooperation.

Han Su-kil, vice chairman of the External Economic Committee; Han Son-kuk, vice chairman of the Committee for Cultural relations With Foreign Countries; Yi Pong-hui, chairman of the DPRK-Russia Friendship Association and vice chairman of the Korean Central Broadcasting Committee; and functionaries concerned were invited to the meeting. Russian Ambassador Muratov Fadeyev and embassy staff were also present. Speeches were exchanged at the meeting.

Lao Party Delegation Presents Gift to Kim Il-song

SK0904054393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0428 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song was presented with a gift by the delegation of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP) on a visit to Korea.

Head of the delegation Thongsing Thammavong, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the LPRP and chairman of the party's organisational committee, handed the gift to Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Presents Gift to Kim Chong-il

SK0904061093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was presented with a gift by the delegation of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP) on a visit to Korea.

Head of the delegation Thongsing Thammavong, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the LPRP and chairman of the party's organisational committee, handed the gift to Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Japan SDP Delegation Departs 6 Apr

SK0904101993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 6 Apr 93

[Text] Wataru Kubo, vice chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Social-Democratic Party [JSDP], and Hajime Fukada, director of the Organizational Department of the JSDP, who are members of the House of Councillors, flew home on 6 April. Kim Yang-kon, vice director of a department of the Workers Party of Korea, saw the guests off at the airport.

Kim Chong-il Thanks Syrian, Palestinian Students

SK0904061293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, Supreme Commander of the Korean People's Army, sent thanks to the Syrian and Palestinian students studying in Korea.

After reading their letter vowing to defend with death the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the bulwark of socialism, from the enemy's invasion, Comrade Kim Chong-il said their deed deeply impressed the Korean people and encouraged them to become good workers by studying well.

A meeting for conveying his thanks took place on April 8.

Present there were Syrian and Palestinian students, officials concerned, Syrian Ambassador to Korea Yasir Farra and charge d'affaires ad interim of the Palestinian embassy here Attulah Qubayah.

The thanks of Comrade Kim Chong-il was conveyed at the meeting.

Then, a Syrian student Saad Hamid Al Fandi and a Palestinian student Aladin Yasin Musa Al Astul made speeches expressing their resolution.

They spoke about the great honor of having received thanks of Comrade Kim Chong-il and said that they would remain on the side of the Korean people against the U.S. imperialists, the common enemy, and their puppets who are attempting to invade the DPRK, the bulwark of socialism and their dear second motherland.

The meeting also heard speeches of the Syrian ambassador and the charge d'affaires ad interim of the Palestinian embassy.

KCNA Reviews 9 April Pyongyang Press

SK0904075393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry photo-accompanied reports that the great leader

President Kim Il-song separately received the joint delegation of five parties of Bangladesh and the delegation of the Lao people's revolutionary party and reports that the delegations presented gifts to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Seen in papers is a message of greetings sent by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to P.J. Patterson, president of the people's national party and Prime Minister of Jamaica, on the victory of his party in the general elections in Jamaica and his reassumption of office as prime minister.

Printed in papers are the ordinance of the Supreme People's Assembly "On the Adoption of the Law on Underground Resources of the DPRK" promulgated by President Kim Il-song and "Law on Underground Resources of the DPRK" adopted at the Fifth Session of the Ninth SPA.

NODONG SINMUN carries an editorial entitled "Let Us Implement the 10-Point Programme of Great Unity of the Whole Nation To Promote National Reunification" and MINJU CHOSON an editorial headlined "Great Charter of National Unity Guiding the Fellow Countrymen to Great Unity" on the adoption of "10-Point Programme of Great Unity of the Whole Nation for Reunification of the Country" worked out by President Kim Il-song at the Fifth Session of the Ninth SPA.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to the Syrian and Palestinian students studying in Korea after reading their letters carrying their pledge to dedicate their lives to the defence of the DPRK, the stronghold of socialism, from the invasion of the enemy.

Appearing in the paper is a message of greetings sent by the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea to the C.C., the Mauritian Socialist Militant Movement on the tenth anniversary of its foundation.

Carried in the press are an account of the second-day sitting of the Fifth Session of the Ninth SPA of the DPRK, news that debate on the second item "On the Results of the Fulfilment of the State Budget for 1992 and on the State Budget for 1993 of the DPRK" continued, the report of Deputy Hong Song-nam, vice-premier of the Administration Council, and speeches on the third item "On the Adoption of the Law on Underground Resources of the DPRK."

Papers carry a report that the 11th April Spring Friendship Art Festival is going on with splendor in Pyongyang and words of heads of foreign art troupes.

NODONG SINMUN observes day of post and telecommunications.

The paper dedicates an article to the 20th anniversary of the full enforcement of the 11-year compulsory education in Korea.

Printed in papers is a statement issued by the minister of atomic energy of the DPRK in connection with the fact that the United States and its followers forcefully adopted an unreasonable "resolution" on transfering our "nuclear problem" to the United Nations on the charge of "noncompliance with the safeguards agreement" at the April 1 meeting of the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

MINJU CHOSON in a commentary denounces a handful of anti-national force in South Korea for slandering our just decision to withdraw from the Nonproliferation Treaty and trying to do harm to fellow countrymen in collusion with outside forces.

South Korea

Reaction to DPRK Treaty Withdrawal Continues

YONHAP Notes 'Mild' UN Statement

SK0904022493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0123 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] United Nations, April 8 (YONHAP)—The United Nations Security Council issued a "mild" statement Thursday expressing concern over North Korea's intention to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and its refusal to open its nuclear facilities to international inspections. It asked for further negotiations between North Korea and concerned parties, especially the International Atomic Energy Agency, for proper settlement of the nuclear issue.

The security council took no action, however, on the North Korean question at the insistence of China, which did not want the 15-member body to be involved in the issue. Asked why the statement was so mild, council President Jamsheed Marker, Pakistan's ambassador, said, "the main reason is a desire that we should continue to persuade North Korea."

The statement said that the members of the security council were concerned at the situation that had arisen from the North Korean decision to withdraw from the NPT. The council reaffirmed the importance of the NPT and of adherence to it by member countries, the statement said. The statement also expressed the council's support for the inter-Korean joint declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Members of the council welcomed all efforts aimed at resolving the situation and in particular encouraged the IAEA to continue its consultations with North Korea and its constructive endeavors for a proper settlement of the nuclear verification issue in North Korea, the statement said. The statement was the first action taken by the world body since Hans Blix, director general of the IAEA, referred the North Korean nuclear issue to the security council on Wednesday.

During talks behind closed doors, the United States and its allies insisted on adopting a stronger statement.

Japan, in particular, demanded that the council set a deadline for North Korea to respond to the statement, but it was not in the final version because of China's strong opposition, sources said. The United States and Japan told China that the world community would have to take a stronger measure against North Korea if it continued refusing to compromise, the sources said.

Thursday's statement represented, nevertheless, a step forward since China had opposed any action at all on the North Korean nuclear issue by the security council. Some members of the council had hoped to adopt a resolution, but a statement was issued instead because the council has to vote on resolutions.

Although a council statement has no binding force, it is noteworthy because the council was able to reach a consensus, diplomatic sources said. What the council could do now is to watch North Korea's response and launch diplomatic efforts to persuade it to retract its decision to leave the NPT and allow IAEA inspections of its facilities. If all efforts fail, the next council action could include the adoption of a resolution and sanctions against North Korea, the sources said.

YONHAP Analyzes UNSC Action on DPRK

SK0904092893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0801 GMT 9 Apr 93

["News analysis" by Hong Song-wan]

[Text] United Nations, April 9 (YONHAP)—The United Nations Security Council took the first of what could be a series of actions on North Korea Thursday when it issued a statement expressing concern over Pyongyang's suspected nuclear weapons plan. The statement, described by many observers as low-key, was the product of an apparent compromise between the United States, Japan and other Western nations on one side and China on the other.

China, the only remaining major ally of North Korea, had insisted that the North Korean nuclear issue be resolved in the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and not in the United Nations Security Council. In view of this Chinese position, the statement, which indicates that the Council will go on dealing with North Korea with grave concern, could be seen as a sign of a change in the Chinese attitude.

China, in effect, accepted a move by the Security Council to tackle the North Korean nuclear question. Furthermore, it tacitly approved the possibility that strong international pressure could be brought to bear on North Korea if Pyongyang keeps refusing to retract its decision to leave the NPT [Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty] and allow outside inspections.

In connection with Thursday's statement, officials at the South Korean mission to the United Nations stressed the significance of the change in the Chinese attitude. But some Western diplomatic sources insist that there has not been any appreciable change in the Chinese policy, which has been supportive of North Korea.

A Security Council statement is customarily read by the Council president before its adoption, followed by a press conference. But president of the council for this month, Pakistani Ambassador Jamshed Marker, cancelled all those customary practices Thursday.

All Council members, who met behind closed doors, came out of the chamber with tense and flushed expressions, indicating that they had been engaged in heated debate.

Chinese Ambassador Chen Jian, angrily replying to a question posed by a reporter, declared: "There will not be any more Security Council meeting on the North Korean question."

Among the contents of the statement, the item saying that "the members of the Council encourage the IAEA to continue its consultations with North Korea" was the most important point and it was proposed by China, Chen told reporters.

The Japanese ambassador came out of the meeting with a grim expression, brushing aside all questions by reporters. Japan demanded that the Council set a deadline in the statement for North Korea to change its position. The Japanese ambassador also asked that the reading of the statement by the Council president be televised before it was adopted.

But the Japanese demands were frustrated by China's opposition, sources said. The intensity of the Council's concern over the North Korean nuclear issue was also watered down a notch, they say, when the Council issued a statement instead of passing a resolution. It was also in consideration of China, the sources said. Nevertheless, the ball now is in the court of North Korean President Kim Il-song and his son and heir, Kim Chong-il.

What the Security Council will do, what kind of action it will take and when, all depend on how the North Korean leaders respond to the Security Council statement. The prevailing view at the United Nations is that the Security Council could go into action again around May 20, two to three weeks before North Korea's announced decision to withdraw from the NPT takes effect on June 12. In other words, North Korea has about one more month in which to change its decision. If it fails to do so, there is a strong possibility that the Security Council could send a final notice to Pyongyang and impose sanctions after adopting a resolution around May 20.

International attention now is focused on diplomatic efforts to be undertaken by the United States, Japan, South Korea, and other nations on North Korea for about a month. One of the most likely plans is for Hans Blix, director-general of the IAEA, to continue his efforts to find a compromise with North Korea. If North Korea continues to reject IAEA efforts, Blix will return to the

Security Council in mid-May with another report. Crucial and important problems lie ahead, says one source at the Security Council. "We only started to tackle them today," he adds.

Minister: 'Simultaneous' Inspections Sought

SK0904014093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0119 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—South Korea has not given up on simultaneous inter-Korean nuclear inspections in addition to international inspections in North Korea, and the U.N. Security Council will issue a statement supporting such inter-Korean efforts, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said Friday.

"The most pressing matter right now is International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) special inspections on North Korea," Han said at a breakfast seminar with the Korean Newspaper Editors Association.

"To raise South-North Korean simultaneous inspection at this point would only complicate the matter," the foreign minister said. "But we have not given up or changed our position regarding simultaneous inspection."

A Security Council statement urging North Korea to return to the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) would include support for inter-Korean efforts for denuclearization, Han said. The foreign minister repeated that Seoul-Pyongyang dialogue can help solve the current nuclear stalemate.

"When it is deemed necessary, when North Korea shows a positive attitude, we will seek ways to help solve the problem through direct dialogue," he said.

Han indicated the right time may be late next month, when global pressure intensifies on North Korea and the possibilities of sanctions become clearer before its npt withdrawal takes effect on June 12, saying Seoul hopes for a solution before this time. He denied that such an approach reflects softness in Seoul's countermeasures.

"The very fact that the matter was taken to the Security Council proves we are not taking a soft stance," he said. "We need compromising actions for the sake of firm policies."

Seoul must not forget in dealing with North Korea's nuclear issue that it is closely intertwined with national reunification, he said. "The immediate aim may be bringing Pyongyang back to the NPT and getting it to accept IAEA special inspection," Han told the seminar. "But at the same time, we must not lose sight of our mid- and long-term goals of making this work positively toward national reunification."

China, which has the greatest leverage on North Korea, did not yet have an opportunity to exert maximum influence because the nuclear issue remained with the IAEA. "The leverage has increased now that the matter has passed on to the Security Council, with China being able to vote for or against council actions on North Korea," Han said.

China's role and influence would change from this point on, depending on the negotiation process at the Security Council, he said.

Swedish Premier Urges DPRK Reconsideration

SK0804150493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1103 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP)—Visiting Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt said here on Thursday he hopes debate at the U.N. Security Council will prompt North Korea to reconsider its position and accept nuclear inspections as well as to remain in the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT).

In a speech at the National Press Club in downtown Seoul, the Swedish premier, now on an official visit here, said, "if this is not the case, the United Nations must be ready to take all the measures that might be called for, including sanctions."

Prime Minister Bildt said that if North Korea should succeed in breaking away from the NPT, this could well serve as an incentive for other countries to do the same, which would very seriously undermine the world community's effort to achieve global stability.

Pointing out that the NPT remains one of the cornerstones of the efforts of the international community to establish global stability, Bildt said the world community, therefore, must act with strength and detemination when the NPT is under threat in the way in which it is today.

Media Reviews New Appointments During DPRK's SPA

Kim Chong-il Posting 'Crucial Step'

SK0904094193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0833 GMT 9 Apr 93

[By Pak Pyong-han]

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—North Korean President Kim Il-song took a crucial step toward completing the transfer of power to his son, Kim Chong-il, on Friday with the junior Kim's appointment as chairman of the National Defense Committee [NDC]. Kim Chong-il, who was already supreme commander of the North Korean Army, was elevated to succeed his father as committee chairman at the fifth session of the Ninth Supreme People's Assembly. Some Western watchers had speculated, wrongly it now seems, that the younger Kim might be in conflict with the military.

As chairman of the NDC, Kim has full control over the military, including the authority to command the entire armed forces, direct defense construction, appoint or discharge major military cadres, declare a "wartime

situation" and issue mobilization orders in contingencies. His appointment as chairman, therefore, is tantamount to the declaration of a "King Chong-il era" in and out of his isolationist and hardline Stalinist country, National Unification Board (NUB) officials here say.

Power over the military was considered to be the most crucial and important thing to handle in the course of transferring power from father to son, so with its accomplishment the elder Kim will step back from active politics and his son will quickly fill the vacuum. The NUB officials say they expect the elder Kim to turn over to his son even the posts of president of North Korea and general-secretary of the Workers' (Communist) Party "in the not too distant future."

"It is only a matter of time before Kim Chong-il assumes the presidency and general-secretaryship of the party," one of them said. Kim Chong-il became a member of the Central Military Commission at the sixth party convention in 1980 and then reinforced his control over the military. He was appointed first vice chairman of the NDC in May 1990, supreme commander of the Army in December 1991 and marshal in April 1992.

When North Korea declared a state of semi-war on March 8 after South Korea and the United States started the "Team Spirit" annual military exercises, the North Korean press praised Kim Chong-il as "the most brilliant military commander of our age" and called for the North Korean Army to be loyal to him. The junior Kim made the decision for North Korea to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), demonstrating that he is the ultimate decision-maker in Pyongyang.

The North Korean media advertised that it was his decision to withdraw from the NPT and to declare a state of semi-war, aiming to convince observers that the younger Kim was the real ruler of the country. His promotion will probably bring changes in relations between Seoul and Pyongyang, some experts say.

One observer says that until now North Korea has put priority on the power transfer, so its foreign policy did not have a goal other than that, but with the completion of the power transfer in clear sight, an active and independent foreign policy might emerge. Most of Kim Chong-il's aides are technocrats from the second generation of the revolution who received a regular education, unlike the first generation, so a more reasonable policy toward South Korea is expected.

Kim junior might eagerly embrace openness and reform, hurry to normalize ties with Japan and the United States, and reconsider his decision to withdraw from the NPT, but the opposite is also possible. The young Kim is unburdened by his father's failure to win the Korean war in 1950, so it cannot be ruled out that he might act rashly if tension mounts on the Korean peninsula.

United Front Head Said Appointed

SK0904054193 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 9 Apr 93 p 2

[By correspondent Yi Chan-sam from Chicago]

[Text] It was confirmed on 9 April that North Korea appointed Kang Chu-il, 63, who was formerly deputy director of the Organization Department of North Korea's Workers Party, as director of the United Front Department, an office in charge of South Korean affairs.

Religious figures in Chicago who recently returned from North Korea said: When they met with Kang Chu-il in Pyongyang to discuss businesses, he introduced himself as director of the United Front Department. He also said that Choe Tae-pok was appointed as director of the International Department to replace Kim Yong-sun, who had been appointed as Workers Party secretary in charge of South Korean affair. He also said that to replace him, Yim Chun-kil, vice chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, was appointed as first deputy director of the United Front Department, that Choe Chol-ung, who was in charge of the pro-North Korean General Association of Korean Residents in Japan [Chongnyon], recently died of cancer, and that the team in charge of strategies toward South Korea has undergone significant changes.

It was learned that Kang Chu-il, a relative of Kim Il-song's mother, graduated from Kim Il-song University and served as chief of the External Cultural Cooperation Bureau (1975), deputy director of the Workers Party's Organizational Guidance Department (1986), deputy director of the Party External Liaison Department in charge of Chongnyon (1988), and vice chairman of the Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Committee (1990). It was also learned that he is close to Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il.

JANE'S Reports DPRK Missile Production

SK0804232893 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2200 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] A British defense magazine reported today that North Korea had reached the stage of full-scale production of the new Nodong No. 1 medium-range missile capable of carrying nuclear bombs and chemical weapons. The missile's range is 960 km. It also reported that the Nodong No. 2 missile, whose range is 2,000 km, would be deployed for actual combat purposes by 1994.

JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, published today, reported that North Korea's development of the medium-range missile started in 1984, that it completed the development of the Nodong No. 1 missile, and that the development of the Nodong No. 2 missile had been delayed because of technological difficulties. This weekly magazine also reported that the Russian Government had kept missile technicians from visiting North Korea in order to prevent the development of Nodong No. 2.

Business Group Invites DPRK Premier to May Conference

SK0904012693 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Apr 93 pp 1, 7

[By staff reporter Kim Chang-yong]

[Text] A powerful business organization is bidding for a visit to Seoul by North Korean Prime Minister Kang Song-san on the occasion of a mammoth regional economic congress to be attended by a number of foreign government and private business leaders in May, informed sources said yesterday. Kang's visit, if realized, is expected to provide a breakthrough in inter-Korean relations, which have been stalled due to the North's nuclear ambitions.

The Federation of Korean Industries, the organization of large business concerns, invited Kang to the 26th General Congress of the Pacific Basin Econoic Council (PBEC) through an official but "clandestine" channel in Hong Kong late last month and is awaiting Pyongyang's reply, the souces said.

The next secret contact is likely to be made in Beijing later this month. The North's representative is Choe Chong-kon, president of Koryo Trade and Development Co., a government trade agency in Pyongyang which also handles inter-Korean economic affairs, according to the sources. The May 22-26 Seoul session of the PBEC, which seeks to promote regional cooperation in economy and trade, will draw about 700 participants from 14 member countries in the Asian-Pacific region, plus observers from six-odd countries including Russia, China and Vietnam, organizers said. Its main theme is "Open Regionalism—A New Basis for Globalism?"

Some heads of state including Philippine President Fidel Ramos and Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Seri Mahathir Mohamad will attend a state leaders' forum of the PBEC meeting, together with President Kim Yong-sam.

Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori and Australian Prime Minister P.J. Keating's visit may be delayed till June because of Seoul's incapability to handle several government guests simultaneously. Seoul has never been visited by more than one head of state at a time. In the March negotations, the North called on Seoul to completely lift its ban on Southern businessmen from visiting the North and bans on other economic exchanges and cooperation as a precondition to Kang's trip to Seoul, administration and business sources said.

Seoul is reserved about an instant commitment to resuming economic cooperation. It has closed the door to economic ties with Pyongyang since late last year to drive the communist state to give up its volatile nuclear development program.

Yet there is the possibility of Seoul conceding to the North's request in its new "carrot and stick" policy, in the words of Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, to dissuade it from walking out of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, the sources said.

"The chance for Kang's visit is 50:50 for now but it could go higher depending on our position on the Noth's nuclear gamble," said one senior administration official who asked not to be named.

In case Kang, a technocrat apparently picked to the top Cabinet post to cure the reclusive state's ailing economy, comes to Seoul, he would meet top government leaders which could offer a clue to the settlement of the North's nuclear issue, the official said.

Kang's predecessor, Yon Hyong-muk, was allowed to visit Seoul four times for prime ministers' talks, but not since the high-level meeting last held in September after rounds of bickering over the North's involvement in a spy ring and the South's push for joint military exercises with the United States.

Other leading names scheduled to participate in the PBEC meeting are former Japanese prime minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, GATT Director General Arthur Dunkel, U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor, Japanese International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori and Russian Deputy Premier Aleksander Shokhin.

Chairmen and chief executive officers of world-renowed business firms will also take part in the five-day Seoul conference.

Metals Trade With DPRK Strong Despite Nuclear Issue

SK0904083793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0652 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—Trade between South and North Korea has plunged because of worsening foreign currency situation in North Korea and tension over the North Korean nuclear issue, sources at the Trade, Industry and Resources Ministry said Friday. South Korea approved 130,000 U.S. dollars of sales to North Korea in March, down 90.8 percent from the same month a year earlier, while allowing 17.43 million dollars in purchases, down 27.5 percent, according to the sources.

The one bright spot is the metals trade. Trade of agro-fisheries goods has shrunk, while those of such precious metals as gold and silver and non-ferrous metals has increased.

South Korea bought 16.34 million dollars of precious and non-ferrous metals from North Korea last month, or 93.8 percent of the total. Gold ingots amounted to 8.78 million dollars, silver ingots, 829,000 dollars, and zinc ingots, 6.73 million dollars. Last year, the proportion of precious and non-ferrous metals was 52.2 percent. It increased to 76 percent in January and 75.6 percent in February, the sources said.

North, South Churches To Exchange Easter Prayers

SK0904083593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0302 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—Christian churches in South and North Korea are to exchange Easter prayers and sermons this weekend in the first inter-Korean religious contact in 46 years. The exchange will be made through the World Council of Churches [WCC] in time for them to be used in the annual joint Easter service on Sunday, a spokesman for the Easter Joint Service Preparatory Committee said Friday.

The joint Easter service was initiated in 1925, but has not been attended by the North since Korea's division in 1947. The open-air service starts at 5 A.M. on Yoido Plaza. The Southern prayer pleads for God's grace to embrace the joy of reunification through reconcilation and harmony between the two halves of the only separated country on earth.

With approval from the National Unification Board, the committee aired its wish on the Christian Broadcasting System's radio station on March 22 and April 2, inviting (North) Korean Christian Federation [KCF] President Kang Yong-sop and KCF Secretary-General Ko Ki-chun to Seoul for Easter services and talks on cooperation and understanding between churches in South and North Korea. There was no response, but North Korea recently notified the WCC that it was willing to exchange prayers and sermons, the spokesman said.

The committee had decided to extend its permit to contact North Korean church representatives by one year for continuous efforts in the field, he said. The preparatory committee, which represents 26 major Protestant churches, will therefore be made a permanent organization, he added.

Pilot Dies in Air Force F-16 Crash

SK0804230993 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2210 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] A fighter plane that was on a nighttime training mission crashed and exploded on a hill. The pilot was killed, and a civilian was wounded. At around 2030 [1130 GMT] yesterday, an ROK Air Force F-16 fighter plane returning to its base after a nighttime training mission crashed on a hill in (Hwangam-ri), (Tongyang-myon), Chungwon County, North Chungchong Province. Captain Chong Chae-nam, the 31-year-old pilot, was killed, and An Chong-sun, a 68-year-old woman living near the crash site, was wounded by shrapnel.

UK To Expand Defense Industry Cooperation

SK0804150193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0951 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Britain are discussing various pipeline projects in defense industry, primarily on defense equipment, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said Thursday. Accenting corporate cooperation, technology transfer and training in aviation, the secretary said that bilateral ties should provide the foundation to South Korea's establishment of its own aviation industry.

"New opportunities will be different from the old," said Hurd in a press conference at the British embassy in the middle of his three-day Seoul visit. "it is no longer an issue of buying and selling." Reminding that Seoul agreed on purchasing helicopters from Britain, Hurd said he and South Korean defense minister discussed pipeline projects with details on defense equipment.

But on general trade issues, Hurd listed number of requests including further deregulation of the financial market and higher ceiling on foreign investment limit than the current 10 percent. "Tax on whiskey is too high," the secretary told the press conference, "there is not enough protection of intellectual property rights."

Hurd, arriving in Seoul Wednesday evening, met with President Kim Yong-sam, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, Defense Minister Kwon Yong-hae and British business leaders in Seoul. Officials here said one of the centerpiece of the meetings was North Korea's nuclear issue. "I hope that it will soon be possible (for the U.N. Security Council) to issue a statement to express concern of the international community," said Hurd.

South Korea and Britain "agreed that this situation is not acceptable, cannot be left where it is," he said. He called for China's participation in UNSC actions, saying it is in China's interest to see nuclear-free Korean peninsula, in China's interest to have better South-North Korean relations. "I hope China will continue to weigh this matter out," he said, "there is reasonable expectation for this."

South Korea and Britain need more consultations on topics other than trade, Hurd said. "We agreed that as Korea becomes more influential, there should be more structured, more consistent discussion in political and security matters in addition to trade," he said.

Paper Links Russian Nuclear Accident, DPRK Program

SK0904063393 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 9 Apr 93 p 6

[Editorial: "Tomsk-7 Nuclear Accident"]

[Text] The reported explosion of a radioactive waste tank in western Russia Tuesday caused great alarm about the possible effect of widespread contamination by its fallout. It has been called the worst nuclear accident since the Chernobyl disaster in 1986.

The explosion at the Tomsk-7 nuclear weapons complex is described by Russian and foreign experts to be far less

severe than the Chernobyl accident. But the environmental group Greenpeace claimed several villages were at risk from windborne radioactivity. The Russian Nuclear Energy Ministry said there were no deaths and no evacuations from the affected region about 2,800 km east of Moscow.

A radioactive cloud is moving across Siberia away from Tomsk-7, a secret military city built by the Soviets that does not appear on ordinary maps. The low radiation levels, the direction of the wind and the long distance of the disaster site from the Far East appear to make the Korean Peninsula as yet safe from its immediate effect.

The unusual openness of Russian officials in reporting the explosion under the liberalized leadership in Moscow serves to convince us of the honesty and straightforwardness of the Russian authorities in dealing with the case. The old Soviet Union kept the Chernobyl accident a secret for days until Scandinavian countries detected the radiation.

However, the full picture of the Tomsk-7 explosion is not yet clear. Our own monitoring system should also harness its best coverage to keep a close watch on the developments. The hazard of nuclear contamination caused by similar explosions and indiscriminate dumping of nuclear waste by Russia in Korea's neighborhood continue to concern and disconcert us, in addition to the worrisome nuclear development attempts of the North Koreans.

For many years the Soviet Union has disposed of its nuclear waste, including atomic reactors, in the northern and western Pacific as far down south as the East Sea touching this peninsula and the Japanese Islands. The revelation raised fresh fears as to the radioactive contamination of fishes caught there and consumed here.

The collapse of the Soviet Union and the slackened and nominal control of the Commonwealth of Independent States over its members made an effective oversight on the storage and treatment of nuclear materials and wastes most difficult. Kazakhstan is known to have the largest amount of radioactive material next to Russia. Both countries have failed to act in a responsible way in disposing of the dangerous materials.

The frequent accidents at nuclear plants are blamed on technical ineptitude and financial difficulty. We cannot ignore the fact that the North Korean nuclear facilities built with Soviet aid and advice are beset with similar weaknesses and dangers. All those involved in the maintenance and development of nuclear plants must prove more accountable for their performance which could threaten the safety of their countless neighbors as well as their own compatriots.

Former 'Comfort Women' Oppose Meeting With Japanese

SK0904105793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0900 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—An organization of former comfort women said Friday [9 April] that South Korea should not allow a Japanese delegation to visit Seoul to meet the women it used as sex slaves until Tokyo admits it used force to round them up. Chongdaehyop, the Civilian Coalition on Comfort Women, said in a statement that Japan was willing to admit forceful recruitment in only a few isolated cases rather than all of the victims.

"What we demand is a full probe into all matters related to comfort women, how they were recruited, who was responsible for them, how the frontline brothels were run, how many victims were involved, and where they were left after the war," the statement said. "We oppose Japan's attitude of trying to hurry a resolution by simply admitting to partially using force," it said.

Officials say the delegation is not likely to be able to meet the victims easily unless Chongdaehyop cooperates since many of the women work closely with the coalition. Japan is believed to have mobilized as many as 200,000 Korean women to serve sex to Japanese soldiers during World War II, when Korea was under colonial rule. Japan issued last year a first report on the comfort women, showing the Imperial Army was directly involved in operating the frontline brothels where the women were turned into sex slaves.

But the report hardly calmed South Korean anger by claiming the Japanese Government found no evidence any of the women were coerced. Most of the victims have testified that they were lied to, threatened and kidnapped. Japanese Government spokesman Kono Yohei said earlier that Tokyo planned to send a delegation to Seoul to personally hear victims' accounts, saying remaining materials in Tokyo were not enough to prove coercion.

"We urge that the delegation come after Japan's second comfort women report discloses all of the demanded facts," Chongdaehyop said. The coalition demanded that the delegation be composed not of government officials but of civilian experts and that it work in full concert with South Korean private organizations.

Trade With East European Countries Falls 33%

SK0904022293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0031 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—South Korea's trade with eastern European countries fell sharply last year because of political chaos and economic depression resulting from their transition to market economies, the Finance Ministry said Friday. Last year, two-way trade with the countries was 539 million U.S. dollars, down 33 percent from 805 million dollars in 1991. This accounted for 0.34 percent of Korea's total trade last year.

The first east-bloc nation to normalize ties with Korea was Hungary in February 1989. Korea sold goods worth 352 million dollars to the countries last year, off 34.5 percent from 537 million dollars in 1991, and imported goods worth 187 million dollars, down 30.3 percent from 268 million dollars.

Investment there reached 40.1 million dollars in nine cases, or 0.89 percent of total overseas investment. The eastern European economies are expected to recover this year due to the effects of new economic policies pursued by those countries so far and economic exchanges between Korea and them will be active, ministry officials said.

6-Day Overseas Envoys' Conference Opens 9 Apr

Foreign Minister Opens Conference

SK0904064693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0519 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu asked chiefs of overseas missions to do their best to prevent the North Korean nuclear problem from developing into a dramatic situation Friday. He asked the ambassadors and consuls-general to personally get on their feet to breathe life back into the economy, and to pay added interest in diplomacy with the Asia-pacific region.

Han kicked off the annual six-day conference of overseas envoys with more than 100 ambassadors, consuls-general and other mission chiefs attending seminars and education sessions on domestic and diplomatic policies. This year's conference includes ambassadors to key postings such as Washington, Tokyo, Moscow and Beijing who have been appointed but are yet to take up their posts.

It is the first meeting of envoys hosted by Han, who became foreign minister in February. "We must refrain as much as possible from diplomacy that centers on activities rather than content," Han said. "We must rearrange operation of our overseas missions for more effective administration and policy decisions."

North Korea's withdrawal from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) gravely affected peace and stability on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia, and everyone must join hands in a united front to unequivocally erase suspicion over Pyongyang's nuclear program, the foreign minister said. "But at the same time, we must react carefully so that the problem will not develop into a dramatic situation," he said. The basis of President Kim Yong-sam's "New Korea" plan was economic recovery, he said. "I ask all of you to go out yourselves in solving economic and trade issues," Han said. "I also ask you to pay more attention than ever before to cooperation with the Asia-Pacific region."

President Kim Addresses Diplomats

SK0904044293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0151 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam, saying that there must not be any nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula under any circumstances, called on diplomats serving overseas to do their best to prevent North Korea from going nuclear Friday. Kim, addressing the first meeting of overseas diplomatic mission chiefs since his inauguration in February, said North Korea's becoming a nuclear power would make not only Korea but all the peace-loving nations of the world unhappy.

The reforms and change that his government was pursuing were intended to achieve national reunification and develop the nation into a major player in the Asia-Pacific region in the 21st century, he said. The government's foreign policy goals were solidifying the national security foundation upon which to achieve national reunification peacefully by the turn of the century and developing the economy so Korea could join the family of advanced economies in the latter half of the 1990s, he said. Kim stressed the need to strengthen economic diplomacy in response to the trade and technology war and said that overseas missions must be Korea's outposts in this war.

Vice-Minister Level Officials Disclose Assets

SK0804064793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0231 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP)—Four vice minister-level officials who were appointed in an additional personnel reshuffle on April 2 disclosed their assets Thursday. Kim Tae-su, vice minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, estimated his wealth at 744 million won (935,000 U.S. dollars), including a 37-pyong apartment (330 million won) in Kangnam, Seoul, and 1,060-pyong forest land (157 million won) in Pyongtaek, Kyonggi Province.

Choe Hun, national railroad administrator, said his wealth stood at 767 million won, including a 54-pyong apartment (203 million won) in Mapo, Seoul, and a plot of residential land (256 million won) in Kwachon, Kyonggi Province. Chu Pyong-tok, a member of the National Police Commission's Standing Committee, said he was worth 951 million won, including a 105-pyong house (816 million won) in Kangnam. Pak Pyong-yong, director of the National Board of Educational Evaluation, put his worth at 974 million won, including a 56-pyong apartment (394 million won) in Songpa, Seoul, and a 100,000-pyong forest land (354 million won) in Yoju, Kyonggi Province.

Finance Ministry Reveals Bond Market Program

SK0904063793 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Apr 93 p 9

[By staff correspondent Yi Chang-sop]

[Text] The Ministry of Finance [MOF] yesterday unveiled a program to modernize the 110 billion dollar bond market ahead of its opening to foreign investors. A salient feature of the ambitious plan was to introduce a bond index futures trading system and the professional bond dealer system as well as to simplify and standardize bond types, pricing, issuing mechanism and formats.

Another highlight was to activate bond trading inside the Korea Stock Exchange and to permit foreigners to make indirect investments in local bonds by buying certificates of bond funds established by investment trust companies. An MOF official said the modernization program will be initiated from this year.

He said the streamlining of the bond market to create a competitive trading environment becomes urgent before the market opens to foreign investors. The MOF's advisory group, the Financial Industry Development Committee, reviewed and endorsed the restructuring plan for the bond market Wednesday.

The MOF said international investors will be able to make an "indirect investment" in Korean bonds by buying certificates of a variety of bond funds established by eight investment trust companies (ITCs). The size of the bond funds is estimated at around 25 trillion won.

An MOF official said the government may set a maximum ceiling on the bond funds foreigners can buy as a transit step toward a full opening of the local bond market. The foreign bond buying quota will be gradually raised year by year, he said.

Offshore funds such as the Korea Fund, Korea Euro-Fund and Korea Asia Fund will be permitted to set aside more money to buy local bonds, the MOF said. These offshore funds were established outside Korea aimed chiefly at buying Seoul stocks but they will be able to buy both local shares and bonds.

But it has not specified when such foreign indirect investment in Korean bonds will begin but MOF officials said the bond market-opening timetable will be made public when Seoul announces the three-stage financial market-opening and liberalization program, originally scheduled for this month.

It said the Korea Securities Dealers Association [KSDA] will install an on-line computer network which will provide bond prices on a real time basis to bond dealers and investors. KSDA will publish a daily information bulletin "Bond Market" which will make available bidding and buying prices of all kinds of bonds as well as reports on trading volume, standard bond prices and settlements of bond trading from the previous day.

The MOF will standardize the bond pricing system under which bond prices or yields will be calculated before tax and commission fees are deducted. Presently, investors are confused because different financial institutions quote different prices on the same bonds due to the lack of a uniform standard for bond pricing.

It said a professional bond dealer system will be introduced. The Korea Stock Exchange [KSE] will reduce various fees and lengthen the bond trading hours as part of the steps to induce investors to trade bonds inside the KSE. Ninty-eight percent of all bonds are trade outside the stock exchange.

The MOF said it will reduce the types of bonds and standardize bond formats so that bond trading can be easily conducted inside the KSE. The bond trading settlement period will be lengthened and codes for bond types will be increased to 12 from the current eight in line with international practices.

As part of steps to create more demands for bonds, banks, securities companies and investment trust companies will be given more freedom to establish bond funds, the MOF said. Financial institutions will be encouraged to lend money by taking bonds as collateral and the government will ultimately stay away from forcibly allocating bonds, including Monetary Stabilization Bond, to financial institutions.

Financial institutions will be permitted to team up with each other to provide joint financial products. The establishment of a money market fund (MMF) will be permitted after the government readjusts business boundaries of financial institutions, it said.

Corporate bonds may be added to the list of bonds that will be given tax incentives. Currently buyers of only state, public and financial bonds are eligible for a 5 percent tax deduction on bond income.

The Korea Securities Finance Corp. (KSFC) will be permitted to hike its capital so that it can actively participate in bond underwritings, the MOF said. Investment advisory firms will be given permission to buy and sell bonds on behalf of their customers. Investors can borrow money from financial institutions to buy bonds, a practice that has been allowed for stock investors. A bond futures trading system will be introduced together with stock index futures trading, in keeping with progress in interest rate liberalization.

Burma

Aung San Suu Kyi's Husband, Son Arrive for Visit

BK0804141293 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] It has been learned that Mr. Michael Aris, the British husband of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, accompanied by his son Kim Aris, arrived in Yangon [Rangoon], Myanmar [Burma], by a Thai International flight at 1550 this evening for a family reunion.

Former Delegate Calls National Convention 'Sham'

BK0804112193 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 1345 GMT 6 Apr 93

[From the "World News" program]

[Text] A former delegate who attended Burma's National Convention, which is being held to frame a new state constitution, has criticized and branded it a sham. Former delegate U Marko Ban explained that he decided to quit attending the National Convention because of the inclusion of the defense services' leading role in Burma's future.

U Marko Ban told reporters at Manerplaw near the Thai border that although all the delegates were carefully scrutinized and selected by the government, the majority of the 700 disagree with the National Convention objectives laid down by the military-led State Law and Order Restoration Council. It was stated that the National Convention, which was convened in January, ended after one recent two-day meeting where delegates failed to reach agreement on National Convention procedures.

Myo Nyunt Warns Against 'Destructive Elements'

BK0904101393 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Excerpts] A coordination meeting for a grand celebration of the 1993 traditional water festival in Yangon [Rangoon] Division was held at the meeting hall of the Office of the Yangon Division Law and Order Restoration Council [YDLORC] at 1300 today.

Lieutenant General Myo Nyunt, chairman of the YDLORC, delivered the address at the coordination meeting. He said that the state government has allowed and given directions for a grand celebration of the Myanmar [Burmese] traditional Thingyan Pwedaw [water festival], and added that it can be seen that respective ministries and townships are implementing the directions. The celebration of this year's Myanmar traditional Thingyan Pwedaw coincides with the year in which the national convention is being held with an emphasis on three cardinal causes [nonintegration of the union, nonintegration of national unity, and perpetuation of national sovereignty] to perpetuate the existence of Myanmar. This year's Myanmar traditional Thingyan Pwedaw, compared with the previous festivals, will be a unique and noble occasion because discussion will be held with new minds and thoughts in order to lay down basic principles for the constitution after cleansing the previous year's philosophies and washing away the dirt with Thingyan water.

We have heard that people—those who are confused, who follow others, who like being flattered, and who are being expelled from various organizations for various reasons—are trying to turn the noble Thingyan festival into one that is uncivilized. They, with support from behind the scenes, are planning to destroy the festival by pretending to be collecting money (for decorative cars) in the wards by using names such as: we will tell the truth; if you want us to swear, we will swear and say it; and no lies [names of the decorative cars that take part in the chorus contests during the water festival]. That is why responsible personnel—military personnel, police, and the public—from the various regions are needed to watch and expose these people who have ill intentions. [passage omitted]. He added that security forces, while cooperating with the public, must take preventive measures not only against fire hazards but also against destructive elements who will use the Thingyan festival as an excuse to cause disturbances and destruction. [passage omitted]

Trade Delegation Leaves for PRC Trade Fair

BK0804085193 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 7 Apr 93

[Text] At the invitation of the Sichuan Provincial Government and the governor of Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China [PRC], a Myanmar [Burmese] trade delegation no.1 led by Lieutenant General Tun Kyi, minister of trade, as leader; U Win Kyi, adviser of the Trade Ministry, as deputy leader; U Aung Kyi, director of the Directorate of Trade; and Captain Kyaw Kyaw Oo, personal officer of the trade minister, as delegation members left Yangon [Rangoon] by air this afternoon. The trade delegation will study economic activities in the provinces and attend the 73d Canton Trade Fair, which will be held on 15 to 24 April.

The delegation was seen off at Yangon airport by Lt. Gen. Kyaw Ba, minister of hotels and tourism; Brigadier General Lun Maung, Prime Minister's Office minister; Colonel Aung Thaung, deputy minister of trade; U Maung Maung Kyaw, director general of the Directorate of Trade; managing directors of trade organizations; responsible personnel; and PRC Ambassador Mr. Liang Feng.

A Myanmar trade delegation no.2 comprising other members of the 15-member group led by Trade Minister Lt. Gen. Tun Kyi, will leave directly for the Canton Trade Fair on 12 April.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Commentary Applauds Mahathir's Visit to Iran

BK0804120093 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed has concluded visits to Uzbekistan and Iran in a series of trips to countries in search of greater trade and economic cooperation. He has described the trips to both countries as being very fruitful. No less than eight agreements were signed during the visits. In Iran, for example, five memorandums of understanding or MOU's and agreements were signed on Monday. After these are implemented, trade between Iran and Malaysia is expected to soar beyond U.S. $200 million from the present low of (?around) 70 million. The two countries have already identified areas in which Malaysian businessmen can invest in Iran in joint ventures to assist in the country's development plan. These will include telecommunications, housing, highways, ports, resorts, mining activities as well as investment in manufacturing and in financing and consultancy services. Apart from the MOU's, the Malaysian National Oil Corporation, Petronas, has signed a new contract with its counterpart in Iran to buy 65,000 barrels per day for two years beginning next month. The two-year contract is valuad at around U.S. $600 million.

We are certainly looking forward to closer Malaysian-Iranian trade and economic relations. To quote Dr. Mahathir, tangible results can be expected from the visit which provided the opportunities for the leaders of the two countries to know each other better. Through them, the business communities of both countries will get to know each other as well. There are vast opportunities available for the Malaysian entrepreneurs to invest in Iran, especially in its oil and gas industries. It is for these reasons that the Malaysian Government is continuously urging our businessmen to adopt a policy of reverse investment whereby [words indistinct] only depending on foreign flows of investment, they can place their funds in other developing countries where opportunities are relatively available to establish joint ventures which can be of mutual benefit.

It is encouraging to note that Iran is viewing Malaysia as a model for its own development. Iranian leaders have expressed their admiration for the Malaysian leadership's shrewd and tactical strategy in planning and managing its economy that has made it one of the most rapidly growing countries in the world. What is now urgently required is closer cooperation between ASEAN and the Economic Cooperation Organization of which Iran is a member. Such an effort will undoubtedly help to bring the two regions closer together in the quest for further economic development. Malaysia has expressed its willingness to take the lead in this direction.

French Company To Set Up Petro-Chemical Refinery

BK0904052093 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0356 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Penang, April 9 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Elf, the French international oil company, is expected to set up a petro-chemical refinery in Malaysia soon, French ambassador to Malaysia Frederick Grasset said Thursday.

He said the Malaysian Government had approved the setting up of the refinery and Elf was expected to invest about RM [Malaysia ringgit] 2 billion (about U.S.$0.769 million) in the project.

Elf was negotiating with a local company to establish the project on a joint venture, he told reporters after meeting Penang's Chief Minister Dr. Koh Tsu Koon at his office, here.

Grasset said Elf had considered Malaysia as one of the best locations in the region for the refinery, based on the good infrastructure and strong market impact here.

He said he also expected more French companies to invest in Malaysia, mainly in the electronic components industries and rubber manufacturing products, while the present 10 French companies here could still expand their operation.

French companies were keen to invest in Malaysia, and he was confident that Malaysia and France would have a bright future in trade cooperation and investment.

Singapore

Computer Firm To Open Factory in PRC Province

BK0804021193 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 7 Apr 93 p 2

[Text] Local computer heavyweight GES Singapore, maker of Datamini personal computers, is setting up a US$6 million (about S$9.75 million) manufacturing plant in China's Jiangsu province.

The investment in Yixing city is part of the 22 industrial projects worth US$93 million secured in March during a visit here by a delegation led by Mayor Li Zhi Hao.

In GES' case, negotiations started in the second half of last year. Its general manager, Daniel Yeong, told BUSINESS TIMES that the company would invest US$3 million in the first year for its 51 per cent stake in the Chinese personal computer manufacturing company.

The Chinese partner, Yixing Automatic Control Instrument Factory (Yaci), which holds the remaining stake, will put in US$3 million worth of factory space and working capital.

Yaci, which achieved a turnover of 100 million renminbi (about S$24 million) last year, manufactures industrial control instruments and employs about 500 workers.

The new manufacturing plant, called GES Yixing, will produce Datamini personal computers for China's domestic market. Production will begin in June and is expected to reach 15,000 to 20,000 PCs in the first year of operation .

GES is one of the biggest homegrown computer companies, along with K T Technology, Creative Technology and IPC. Last year, it recorded a turnover of $130 million.

In addition to GES Yixing, the other investment commitments made by Singapore companies in Yixing involve food processing, the garment and textile industry, and property development, according to William Lee, who has been appointed economic adviser to Yixing. Details of these investments are not available.

Mr Lee, who is president and chief executive officer of JIT Corporation, said it was also planning a tourist resort and an industrial or office complex in the city, which is located about 150 km inland from Shanghai.

JIT, which trades mainly in industrial products, organised the visit of the Yixing delegation to Singapore in March. It is now organising an eight-day trade delegation to Yixing and Shanghai at the end of this month.

A seminar—on trade and investment opportunities in China—is being planned for some time between July and October. JIT hoped to draw 500 participants from all over the world, Mr Lee said.

Mr Lee said current investment opportunities in China were available mainly in urbanisation and development projects for industrial and commercial complexes, golf courses, country clubs and oil refineries, among others.

Firm Wins Land Development Projects in PRC, SRV

BK0904090393 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 8 Apr 93 p 40

[By Gerry de Silva]

[Text] In a new burst of expansion Amcol Holdings Ltd [Limited] has bagged a major property development project in Shanghai and another in Vietnam worth a total of about $1 billion. The two projects will be undertaken together with Hong Kong-based New World Development, a major Amcol shareholder.

Listed Amcol and its partner will develop a US$500 million (S$815 815.00 million) [as published] office-and-residential complex project in Shanghai.

Sources said yesterday that the project, on a 15-acre site located opposite Shanghai's World Trade Centre, would be "a major landmark" in the city when completed within two years. Documents for official approvals have been submitted for the job which entails the conversion of a large bus interchange in the heart of the city into a spanking new complex.

The complex with 200,000 square meter of built-up space will "overshadow" the World Trade Centre, the source added. About 70 per cent of the space has already been booked, mostly by Taiwanese and Hong Kong concerns.

Amcol and New World have formed a joint venture for the Shanghai contract, with the two of them holding a combined stake of 72 per cent. A Chinese state-owned company will hold the remaining 28 per cent.

Mr. Kang Hwi Wah, an Amcol director believed to have a major role in the group's regional push, confirmed that the China and Vietnam projects were on the cards but declined to give details. He was present at the signing of Amcol's $100-million bond issue yesterday.

Amcol's joint managing director, Dr. Paul Tong, hinted at the new projects. "We believe growth will always be there," he said but declined to give details.

Dr. Tong, who represents New World on Amcol's board, said Amcol will pursue opportunities in the region such as hotels, resorts and related projects. It is believed the Vietnam project is a resort hotel but details were not available yesterday.

The Amcol-New World partnership has strengthened the Singapore group, especially in landing jobs in China. The Hong Kong group which owns 10 per cent of Amcol is in real estate, hotel and construction.

Among Amcol's projects is Palm Resort Sdn Bhd [Company Limited] which is building a 350 suite hotel in Senai, Johor. Amcol is also planning to add facilities offered at the 18-hole Batam-based Talvas Golf and Resort which it bought recently.

Mr. Kang has tied up with Construction Technology Pte [Private] Ltd (Contech), wholly owned by Temasek Holdings, on property jobs in Johor and Batam. Contech is not a stake holder in the Shanghai project as rumoured earlier.

Cambodia

Japanese UN Official Received Death Threat

BK0904085293 Hong Kong AFP in English 0809 GMT 9 Apr 93

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 9 (AFP)—A Japanese U.N. electoral official who was apparently executed by suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas in central Cambodia had been warned of his death in an anonymous note sent to him and his colleagues, U.N. officials said Friday. Atsuhito Nakata and 13 other electoral officials in Kompong Thom Province had written a letter to the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) headquarters in Phnom Penh saying their lives were being threatened

and requesting a meeting to discuss security after receiving the threats, the officials said. "A message was left for him indicating he should watch out," U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said.

The meeting was granted and scheduled for Sunday in Phnom Penh, and Nakata himself was making his way here Thursday when he was detained with his interpreter and shot dead by a group "believed to be" Khmer Rouge guerrillas, according to a military report. "People are worried about their security and rightfully so," said David Costanza, an electoral officer from California who signed the letter after receiving several threats himself.

Several of his colleagues do not want to go back to their isolated district headquarters, he said, adding that he had not yet made up his mind. "At the meeting where we signed the letter, Atsu stressed that he didn't want to leave Cambodia, that he wanted to continue to work," Costanza said. Although he said he did not know for sure who had written the threats, others said anonymously they believed it was the Khmer Rouge.

Costanza, with several of his colleagues, came to the UNTAC daily press briefing and angrily stomped his foot at the vague answers given by the U.N. spokesman on enhanced security measures. "Are you saying the military will be ordered by UNTAC to protect us?" he demanded before Falt silenced him.

Falt would not say how many times Nakata had radioed to request help after he was detained by armed soldiers, nor give details of the contents of his messages. Nakata was in radio contact for 30 to 40 minutes before stopping transmission. He was found dead under his car by another U.N. supervisor, with bullet wounds to the head and chest one hour later.

Falt indicated that the military had responded slowly due to confusion about his location and would change their method of emergency communication in the future. "There was some confusion on the channels," the U.N. spokesman said. "This probably was a problem. In the future people will be asked to use the same channel."

U.N. election officials said security had been steadily declining for the last two months in Kompong Thom. "It finally reached a point where it finally needed attention," said an official who could not be identified. Costanza said U.N. electoral officers in other provinces—Siem Reap, Preah Vihear and Battambang—had also received threats.

Falt said a radio message had been sent to all electoral workers asking them to "continue to exercise caution in their work in the field." A message from UNTAC chief Yasushi Akashi said preventive measures would be taken to ensure safety of U.N. personnel. "I am deeply upset by this murder that I consider to be a serious challenge to the peace process being conducted by the United Nations in Cambodia," he was quoted as saying. "I condemn with the strictest severity this criminal act."

The electoral supervisors are part of the U.N. organisation to hold elections in Cambodia next month under the country's peace process. The polls are being boycotted by the Khmer Rouge, who have not ruled out violence in their campaign to stop them taking place.

Meanwhile in Tokyo Japan's defense chief Toshio Nakayama hinted Friday that Japanese troops assisting U.N. peacekeeping activities in Cambodia might quit the country if violence worsens ahead of the polls. But he said Japan did not consider the current situation in Cambodia as an emergency requiring withdrawal. The Japanese cabinet also said early Friday that its troops would remain in Cambodia.

UN Personnel To Travel Under Armed Escort

BK0904103493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1009 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 9 (AFP)—The United Nations said Friday that due to the "obvious danger" to U.N. peacekeepers in the country, all U.N. personnel using the country's two main highways must travel in groups with an armed U.N. escort.

"Obviously after this string of attacks there's obviously a danger to our personnel," U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) spokesman Eric Falt said. He was referring to the deaths of six U.N. peacekeepers and a Cambodian interpreter within the last 10 days. Most recently, a Japanese U.N. electoral officer in central Kompong Thom Province was detained and executed by armed men believed to be the Khmer Rouge. A directive to all UNTAC members asked them to increase vigilence when traveling on National Routes 5 and 6, which link the capital with the northwest of the country on both sides of the Tonle Sap Lake.

"UNTAC vehicles traveling along these roads are instructed to do so in groups as large as possible, and military escort will be coordinated for their protection and security," Falt said. Falt would not say why vigilence was necessary for Route 5, which cuts through territory primarily controlled by the Phnom Penh government. But he said Route 6, through troubled Kompong Thom and Siem Reap Provinces was "disputed" between Phnom Penh government forces and the Khmer Rouge.

A letter from UNTAC chief Yasushi Akashi to Prince Norodom Sihanouk said: "We are determined to take all possible measures to avoid new losses in the future." U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali, during a visit this week that was marred by the increasing violence, affirmed that the U.N.-run elections in May would go on as scheduled. "We are looking at the modalities of the election in the light of the current security situation," Falt said.

Khieu Samphan Sends Letter to UN Chief

BK0904061393 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 7 Apr 93

[Text] His Excellency Khieu Samphan, head of the party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], sent a letter to His Excellency Butrus Butrus-Ghali, UN secretary general, on 6 April. The text of this letter is as follows:

To His Excellency Butrus Butrus-Ghali, UN secretary general,

Your Excellency the Secretary General: I am honored to take this opportunity to inform you of the current situation in Cambodia vis-a-vis peace and security in Cambodia and the whole of Southeast Asia. As you know, the Paris agreement arranged on the basis of successive resolutions of the UN General Assembly is aimed at putting an end to the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] war of aggression in Cambodia, thus enabling Cambodia to enjoy peace, unity, and sovereignty with its genuine territorial integrity and also enabling the Cambodian people to decide their own destiny through a free and fair democratic election in a neutral atmosphere.

The Cambodian nation and people, who are victims of the Yuon war of aggression; countries, governments, and people in this region; and countries and people who cherish peace, independence, and justice across the world welcomed the signing of the Paris agreement on 23 October 1991.

To realize the above-mentioned goal, the Paris agreement has assigned UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] in cooperation with quadripartite Supreme National Council [SNC], which is the sole source of power and legal body in Cambodia, to carry out its mission, particularly:

I. To verify the total withdrawal and nonreturn of foreign forces, namely all categories of Yuon aggressor forces from Cambodia.

II. To authorize the SNC to carry out its role as a legal organization and the sole source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period.

III. UNTAC, in cooperation with the SNC, is assigned to control five key domains which are directly influential to the election, namely, national defense, interior, information, foreign affairs, and finance.

IV. To verify the regroupment, cantonment, disarming, and demobilization of the armed forces of the four Cambodian factions by at least 70 percent prior to the election.

All of this is to provide a neutral political atmosphere, security, and stability throughout Cambodia. They are the most important factors to hold a free, democratic, and correct general election to elect a national assembly which really represents the Cambodian nation and people and an authentic government.

UNTAC, however, has not fulfilled its mission to realize the goal of the Paris Accord despite the fact that over 17 months have elapsed since the signing of the Paris Accord and there is only a few months left before its mandate terminates. UNTAC has not implemented the important, fundamental, and key points of the Paris agreement. On the contrary, it has taken some measures which directly affect the survival of Cambodian race for many generations to come. As a matter of fact:

A. UNTAC has not verified the total withdrawal of all categories of Yuon aggressor forces from Cambodia. It has declared that there are no Yuon.

B. It has enacted a law that gives millions of Yuon aggressor forces the right to vote in Cambodia.

C. It has enacted a law and established courts to try any Cambodians struggling against Yuon aggressors.

D. It has opposed and taken successive measures to prevent the SNC from playing any role so as to enable Phnom Penh faction installed by Yuon to remain in power.

E. UNTAC has not cooperated with SNC in supervising and controlling the five domains. On the contrary, it has colluded with and helped the Phnom Penh puppets in all aspects—military, political, economic, financial, propaganda, and diplomatic.

Through this, the Cambodian nation and people inside and outside the country can see more clearly that not only has UNTAC failed to implement 23 October 1991 Paris agreement, but it is destroying and trampling upon the agreement and colluding with Yuon aggressors and their puppets in order to maintain the Yuon puppet regime, old Yuon forces in Cambodia, and open borders for new Yuon forces to flow into Cambodia.

By now, there are over 2.4 million old and new Yuon forces in Cambodia. Over 1.3 million of them are holding Cambodian identity cards and registered in UNTAC electoral lists.

The Cambodian nation and people do not understand why has the UN Security Council failed to discuss the issue of Yuon aggressor forces [words indistinct]? Particularly, most of these Yuon forces are cadres, members of Vietnam Communist Party, members of Yuon Farmers' Association, and members of Communist Youth of Vietnam whose duty is to carry out the plan and strategy to annex Cambodia. Why did the UNTAC and Western powers not mention a word on this matter?

All the above points clearly show that UNTAC and Western powers are not here to carry out their major task as clearly mentioned in the Paris agreement, that is to verify the total withdrawal of Yuon forces from Cambodia so that Cambodia can enjoy its independence and

be free from Yuon occupation. On the contrary, their aim and policy are to smash the PDK forces which they call the Khmer Rouge.

These Western powers regard the PDK as a major obstacle to the strategic interests of their economic domain in Cambodia and the whole of Southeast Asia. They are willing to facilitate the presence of Yuon forces in Cambodia for use in realizing their goal. They are even willing to forsake Cambodia and turn to forge an alliance with Vietnam.

These Western powers think that Vietnam has been weakened so much due to Cambodian people's struggle in the past 13 to 14 years and the collapse of the Soviet bloc and the Warsaw Pact.

By looking through these reasons, one will understand why they have all along tried to force the PDK to enter the second phase without carrying out any verification on the total withdrawal of all categories of Yuon aggressor forces from Cambodia by implementing the important and fundamental points as mentioned above.

Due to these reasons, one can see clearly why they have insisted on holding such a crude election in a situation when the Phnom Penh forces are intensifying political terrorism, assassinating, lobbing hand grenades at, and threatening the people and members of other political parties, such as FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party and Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party. So far, many members of the FUNCINPEC and Buddhist Liberal Democratic Parties were killed, arrested, detained, and menaced. Their propaganda offices in various provinces were destroyed by the Yuon and Phnom Penh puppets. On 15 March, the Yuon sent four Phnom Penh puppet soldiers wearing PDK military uniforms to lob two grenades at the FUNCINPEC office at (Kandoeng) village in Kampot Province.

Many events clearly prove that the Yuon do not want to leave Cambodia. They have tried by all means to annex Cambodia in line with their Indochinese Federation strategy. This is why we still hope that the Western powers in the UN Security Council will understand the Cambodian people's (?determination) to defend their national entity and their sincere desire to coexist peacefully with all countries near and far within the framework of an independent and neutral Cambodia which enjoys its full territorial integrity and pursues a system of multiparty constituent assembly and market-oriented economy—an indispensable condition ensuring a genuine national reconciliation.

Instilled by this spirit, the Cambodian nation, people, and national resistance forces, including Democratic Kampuchea, have time and again called on UNTAC and Western powers to turn to correctly implement the Paris agreement so as to end all kinds of misery and destruction caused against Cambodia by the Yuon's war.

Only when UNTAC turns to correctly implement the Paris agreement, will the Cambodian people and national resistance forces cooperate with it. Only then will UNTAC regain its prominent prestige, thus enhancing the (?other capabilities) of the United Nations.

Based on the above reasons, we are firmly convinced that your excellency will understand why have we, the PDK, refused to take part in the election to be organized by UNTAC in May.

At present, not only our faction but also His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the SNC, and more and more Cambodian people both inside and outside the country have opposed this unfair election being organized by UNTAC.

Your Excellency might also understand that an election in such a situation can only legalize the presence of Yuon in Cambodia through the Yuon puppets installed in Cambodia for the past over 14 years.

The Yuon and their puppets are well aware of this matter. They have boasted that they will certainly win. With or without the election, they will certainly win. With large or small numbers of votes for them, they will certainly win. They have even arrogantly warned that one should not forget to take a look at some countries in which elected parties were smashed, arrested, and jailed.

The Yuon and their puppets suffered military setbacks in the past 13 years to the point that they were compelled to sign the Paris agreement. UNTAC and the West, however, have instead helped them to realize their design of legally swallowing up Cambodia. This is a most serious tragedy for the Cambodian nation, people, and race. It constitutes an encouragement for the other aggressor forces to trample on the UN Charter and various international laws. This poses a serious danger to peace, security, and stability in the world as a whole.

Since the end of 1992, His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the SNC, made successive statements, verifications, and interviews stressing that the current situation in Cambodia is very bad; Cambodia is on the brink of collapse as a nation, a country, and a people who are losing their national independence, territorial integrity, and sovereignty.

In his historic statement dated 14 December 1992, HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the SNC, made an appeal that I would like all factions, all political parties, and all male and female Cambodians who recognize themselves as patriots to open up their eyes so as to clearly see the life-and-death grave danger which our beloved and worshipped Cambodia is facing. History and Cambodian children in the next generations will judge and strongly condemn anyone who allows the foreigners to occupy and send their men to control and plunder our land and property and to drive out Cambodian people from some parts of Cambodia.

In conclusion, I would like to reaffirm to Your Excellency that the PDK still respects and wants the implementation of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement correctly and thoroughly. We always respect the role of HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the SNC, who is the outstanding leader of Cambodian nation and people. We wholeheartedly support his plan for Cambodia to regain its independence with its territorial integrity.

With a firm conviction in the spirit of justice and the stand of resolutely defending the just and reasonable action that Your Excellency used to display, we would like once again to earnestly appeal for Your Excellency to please do anything possible to prevent Cambodia from losing its national entity, race, and people and from becoming a legal part of Vietnam through this UNTAC-organized election.

Please, Your Excellency, accept my sincere respects and best regards.

[Dated] 6 April
[Signed] Khieu Samphan, head of the PDK and member of the SNC

Khieu Samphan, Son Sann Meet With UN Chief 7 Apr

BK0904093793 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 8 Apr 93

["Remarks by His Excellency Khieu Samphan and His Excellency Son Sann at the meeting of the Supreme National Council, SNC, with the UN Secretary General on 7 April"—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. His Excellency Khieu Samphan, chairman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] and SNC member, informed the UN secretary general that the Cambodian people will not let the Vietnamese aggressors annex Cambodia through the theatrical farce of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia].

On the afternoon of 7 April, when Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali met with SNC members at the royal palace in Phnom Penh, Khieu Samphan, PDK chairman, said the current Cambodian situation is insecure; this is widespread in Phnom Penh and the provinces. There is no peace and no neutral political atmosphere. The Vietnamese aggressors are all over the country. In such a situation, the UNTAC-organized elections will simply allow Vietnam to continue occupying Cambodia.

Khieu Samphan stressed that Democratic Kampuchea [DK] is not the only one opposing the election to legitimize Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia. The Cambodian people in general oppose Vietnam's aggression against Cambodia, Vietnam's puppets, and the UNTAC-organized elections allowing Vietnam to annex Cambodia.

He further said that the current dark situation in Cambodia has resulted from UNTAC not implementing the Paris agreement. UNTAC and Western powers, including Japan, have not implemented the Paris agreement. They have a policy of discarding DK and forcing other parties to join Vietnam's puppet regime. This policy had been implemented before the Paris agreement. After the Paris agreement, every method has been used to discard DK in order to allow Vietnam to annex Cambodia.

2. At the same time, Son Sann, chairman of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party, informed the secretary general that there are still over a million Vietnamese aggressor forces and Vietnamese settlers controlling Cambodia at present. These Vietnamese aggressors all hold Cambodian identity cards and have registered for the election. He demanded that the secretary general ordered UNTAC to respect the Paris agreement and verify that Vietnamese aggressor forces have been withdrawn from Cambodia.

Son Sann said that only when there is verification of Vietnam's withdrawal from Cambodia can there be a fair election.

UN Chief Supports Polls; PRC Envoy on Violence

BK0904050393 Hong Kong AFP in English 0241 GMT 9 Apr 93

[By Patrick Lescot]

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 9 (AFP)—Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali vowed during his visit here that the United Nations would not submit to intimidation and that planned elections in Cambodia would not be derailed.

"The United Nations will not be intimidated by violence or threats," he said here Thursday following the shooting deaths of a Japanese U.N. employee and his interpreter, allegedly by the Khmer Rouge.

"The election will take place," Butrus-Ghali vowed. He left for Bangkok Thursday.

The U.N. chief did not attempt to downplay the magnitude of the task involved in successfully staging the May 23-27 polling, in the face of increasingly violent Khmer Rouge opposition.

He told Cambodian leaders Wednesday that the United Nations is already heavily stretched by demands for personnel and resources in Bosnia, following major peacekeeping efforts in Angola and Somalia. He spoke of "aid fatigue."

Yet he chose to avoid a direct confrontation with the Khmer Rouge, even though its guerrillas have been directly implicated in Thursday's murders, the recent slayings of other U.N. personnel, and the massacres of ethnic Vietnamese settlers.

Butrus-Ghali, the observers said, was apparently attempting instead to isolate the Khmer Rouge in their hard-line position while obtaining from Cambodia's Prince Sihanouk a formal commitment of support for the democratic process.

As the country's "spiritual father," Prince Sihanouk enjoys high prestige in Cambodia. Several members of Sihanouk's family disappeared during the Khmer Rouge's murderous 1975-79 rule, but Sihanouk's life was spared.

In line with custom, nominal Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan bowed to his former sovereign at the airport during Butrus-Ghali's departure.

Chinese Ambassador Fu Xuezhang told AFP that, like other U.N. Security Council members, China condemned any violence during the Cambodian election campaign as a "violation" of the 1991 peace accord on Cambodia.

The first violence of the official campaign period had occurred early in the day in a Khmer Rouge-controlled zone. The murder of the Japanese electoral officer and his interpreter was "very serious," Fu said.

As for the other Cambodian factions, after some hesitation over the massacre of ethnic Vietnamese inside Cambodia by the Khmer Rouge they have decided to range themselves beside Butrus-Ghali.

The strongman of the Phnom Penh government, Chea Sim, who heads the communist party put into power by Vietnam after it ousted the Khmer Rouge, opened his election campaign Wednesday portraying himself as the best bet blocking the Khmer Rouge and in alliance with the influential Buddhist clergy.

Hurt by the recent series of attacks, the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) and its 20,000 men and women from 45 countries should receive a morale boost from Butrus-Ghali's brief visit.

In a veritable combat speech Thursday morning, he told 200 UNTAC representatives that there was a tremendous amount at stake in Cambodia.

He warned top Cambodian political leaders gathered to meet him that if peacekeeping failed in Cambodia, they would be contributing to the failure of similar efforts in Latin America, Africa, Europe and elsewhere in Asia.

PRC Condemns Death of Japanese UN Peacekeeper

BK0904130093 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0437 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 9—China strongly "condemned Thursday's killing in Cambodia of a Japanese U.N. worker by suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas, and called on all factions in the war-torn country to work for peace," reports AFP.

"We never approve any form of violence and strongly condemn the attacks directed against U.N. peacekeeping forces in Cambodia," said Foreign Ministry Spokesman Wu Jianmin.

Atsuhito Nakata, 25, was ambushed and shot dead in the central Province of Kompong Thom. The Khmer Rouge have killed five other U.N. peacekeepers in the past 10 days.

The attack (?coincided with) a two-day visit by U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali to Cambodia. Nakata was the first Japanese to be killed in hostile action in Cambodia.

The Marxist Khmer Rouge [words indistinct] next month's elections which were agreed under the 1991 Paris peace accords and have failed to cooperate with U.N. peacekeepers.

"The implementation of the Paris agreement is the guarantee for achieving peace in Cambodia," Wu told a weekly news briefing.

"It is our hope that the different parties in Cambodia will all seek and act in line with the Paris agreement so as to serve the interests of Cambodia's peace and national reconciliation," he added.

China was a close ally of the Khmer Rouge and was the faction's main arms supplier during the civil war against the government in Phnom Penh.

Writer Examines Violence Against Vietnamese

BK0904031793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Apr 93 p 4

["Cambodia Diary" by Jacques Bekaert]

[Text] What is going wrong in Cambodia? The answer depends of who you talk to. "The country is doing relatively fine, it is at least as democratic as some of the ASEAN countries," said one senior Phnom Penh-based Western diplomat. "The killings are deplorable, but is it worse than in other places?"

"It is bad, really bad," said another diplomat involved in human rights activities. "The situation is getting out of hand, killings are becoming commonplace, political intimidation is everywhere. I am afraid it will take a miracle to save the country."

"Who cares," said another diplomatic source. "Cambodia does not matter to the world. Soon it will be forgotten, and if there is a civil war, it will be the Cambodians' sole responsibility."

Almost every Cambodian you meet in the capital city or elsewhere will say they are exasperated by the political situation. "We want peace, law and order, a chance to work and rebuild the nation," said a Phnom Penh resident. "We are fed up with violence ... I would vote for any party that can bring peace."

But there are other more dangerous statements made almost constantly. Most of them concern the presence of Vietnamese settlers.

Few Khmers are willing to condemn the recent massacres of Vietnamese. Many find them at least excusable. Quite a few are considering that sooner or later Cambodia should launch a war against Vietnam, or forcefully get rid of all Vietnamese living in Cambodia. There is an element of irrationality in what you hear from many of the otherwise moderate, gentle and sensitive persons you meet in Phnom Penh.

Some Westerners are prompt to compare the situation of the Vietnamese in Cambodia to that of the immigrant workers in Europe. Some gullible people may be manipulated by demagogic politicians a la Le Pen who scream for expulsion of what the Germans used to call the "guest workers" and other foreigners, but most people still believe that racism is wrong, that more decent solutions must be found.

Why can't the Cambodians behave in a more civilised way? wonder these Westerners.

But the Vietnamese issue is based on a deep-rooted fear that sooner or later Vietnam will swallow Cambodia. Some reasonable thinking and a sense of national responsibility from both Cambodian and Vietnamese leaders are needed to solve the problem.

Let's consider a few facts. In the past 13 years it has been very easy for Vietnamese settlers to come to Cambodia. The Phnom Penh regime never seriously objected. (It was probably not in a position to do anything anyway.) Even UNTAC has been criticised for being rather slow and indecisive in establishing some kind of verification along the Vietnamese-Cambodian border and other ports of entry.

True, it is almost impossible to control such a vast territory, and people on both sides know very well where to cross into Vietnam or Cambodia. In recent months I spoke to dozens of new Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. None had a visa, a passport, or any kind of papers. No Cambodian official ever asked anything. And there is nothing that money cannot fix anyway.

Authorities in both Vietnam and Cambodia have been fairly irresponsible when talking about the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia.

All the endless speeches about eternal solidarity, fraternity and eternal love meant nothing to the vast majority of the Cambodian population. Even if the Cambodians have some debt of gratitude toward Vietnam, you are not going to convince anyone by speaking forever about a special revolutionary friendship.

I know a few Vietnamese advisers who were really liked by the Cambodians they worked with. They were good men and women who wanted to do some good and then go back home. I have met plenty of Khmers who understand the need to build good, equal relations with Vietnam.

Vietnamese-Cambodian relations are based too much on boring proclamations and ideology, with few good personal contacts. Had Vietnam been less dogmatic, less "communist" in 1979, better relations could certainly have been built. History cannot be changed but it is high time that officials on both sides admitted the existence of problems, frankly acknowledged mistakes made by both sides and worked for a better future. As Prince Sihanouk often said: One will never change the fact that Vietnam is next to Cambodia. It is time to deal with reality.

Yes, Vietnamese are entering—and leaving—Cambodia almost as they please, and no sovereign nation would accept this kind of "laissez-passer," but killing men, women and children is not the answer. World opinion will sympathise more and more with the Vietnamese, not the Cambodians.

But the Vietnamese question is not the most pressing issue in Cambodia today. The Cambodian people should not blame everything on the Vietnamese. Nor on UNTAC. Without UNTAC, the situation would be a lot worse. The Cambodian people should take a hard look at what they are doing themselves.

The greatest danger facing Cambodia today is not Vietnam, not even the Khmer Rouge.

Cambodia is facing the danger of vanishing into a sea of corruption, incompetence, selfishness, lack of concern from some of its own leaders, total breakdown of law and order, and the growing hopelessness of its own population.

The Cambodian people are being abused day and night by their own people, whatever the mistakes of UNTAC.

One Khmer Rouge official once told me that only by being a prosperous, friendly nation, could Cambodia feel secure toward its powerful neighbours. Too bad the Party of Democratic Kampuchea has not worked more actively for the realisation of this goal.

Most people do not realise that not so long ago the Kingdom of Cambodia was prosperous, developing and generally doing well. In 1969 Cambodia was the largest exporter of rice in the region. Phnom Penh was considered the cleanest city of Southeast Asia.

Cambodia later suffered from conflicts engulfing its neighbours, from the radical Khmer Rouge experiment, from the dogmatism of the Vietnamese occupants (especially between 1979 and 1987), from the poor examples offered to the population by its own leadership.

Some of the present catastrophes were almost predictable. And what will happen to an army whose men are not paid? The Cambodian People's Armed Forces (CPAF) are in bad shape, as everybody knows, but other armed factions are not in a much better position.

Reliable UNTAC and diplomatic sources say that in the small zones still controlled by the FUNCINPEC, members of the ANKI (the National Army for an Independent Cambodia, the former ANS) are going wild. Disgruntled soldiers have rebelled against their officers. People are executed without trial. A large number of soldiers belonging to the ANKI or the KPNLF have vanished.

The CPAF still has a few regiments capable of mounting an operation and willing to fight. These are troops that are still paid. Others are like the soldiers under the command of Captain Te Sot, who roams the countryside with a band of 200-300 men, stealing and robbing people. On route 68, according to an UNTAC military document, the CPAF is manning about 24 checkpoints. "The troops claim they are securing the routes. But in reality they are collecting illegal tolls," said the document.

It is unclear whether the High Command of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (the Khmer Rouge) is in full control of its military units. UNTAC observers believe that many commanders are acting on a semi-autonomous basis. "One of the reasons the High Command of the NADK never condemns the actions of some of their troops is because the NADK leadership does not want to give the impression that it is losing control over the situation," said one UNTAC military expert.

Fortunately none of these armies is in a position to wage a fullscale war. But they can create plenty of problems for the population, and for the next government of Cambodia. Foreign governments should be extremely careful in promising to give military aid to the factions that may win the upcoming elections. Tanks and heavy guns are not exactly what Cambodia needs most in the near future.

Of course, one of the crucial tasks the next government will have to perform is the creation of a National Army of Cambodia. Foreign military observers tend to believe that it is best to start from scratch. But what will happen to the thousands of men who have been fighting during the past 13 years?

Some people in UNTAC are considering whether the United Nations should pay these troops in order to restore law and order before the elections. Some kind of assistance will be necessary for some time to come since the State of Cambodia has practically no income. What kind of money the other factions still receive and make is subject to much speculation.

Prince Sihanouk's plan for a national reconciliation government has been rejected. The prince now feels there is little that he can do as head of the Supreme National Council, which is more of a forum to express divergent points of view rather than a source of decisions. But Sihanouk remains the only person with the stature and political skill to navigate the country through rough waters.

Sihanouk does not want to spend too much time in Phnom Penh because he does not like what he sees and does not want to be used by the factions for their own narrow benefit. Many Cambodians agree with the prince's assessment. At the same time, they want him to be in the country. Maybe it is time for the prince to tour the country, under UNTAC protection, to express his desire for national unity and to beg for an end to violence.

Sihanouk is not a magician or a superman. There is not much that he can do without real power, an army, or an administrative apparatus. Sihanouk's moral power is still there, however. And it is much needed.

PDK Spokesman: People 'Angry' Over Polls

BK0904104193 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] On 7 April, Mak Ben, spokesman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], said in a news conference at the PDK office in Phnom Penh that the election organized by UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] is preparing the legitimization of Vietnam's continued aggression against, expansion into, and annexation of Cambodia through a Vietnamization policy which puts Cambodia within the framework of Vietnam's Indochinese federation.

He said that 7 April saw the launching of the UNTAC-organized election campaign. The Cambodian people are very angry because they realize that the UNTAC-organized election campaign is a theatrical farce in preparation for handing over Cambodia to the Vietnamese aggressors and legitimizing the regime—Vietnam's puppet and traitor to the nation—which has been propped up by the Vietnamese aggressors since 1979. Up to this election campaign day, the situation in Cambodia has been very bad, since:

1. Vietnamese aggressor forces are everywhere in Cambodia;

2. Vietnamese settlers continue to flow into Cambodia. The number of Vietnamese in Cambodia is more than 2.4 million; over 1.3 of them have received Cambodian identity cards and have registered for election with UNTAC;

3. Insecurity reigns in the country. Vietnamese aggressor forces and Vietnam's puppets continue to carry out military activities and terrorist and political acts in order to murder the Cambodian people and members of various political parties;

4. Over the past few weeks, in Phnom Penh and cities and townships in various provinces, the Cambodian people and the Cambodian soldiers in the puppet army have been angry and carried out activities against the Vietnamese aggressors and against the puppets—Vietnam's lackeys—and have refused to use the worthless riel bank notes of Vietnam's puppets.

All this results from the refusal by UNTAC, the Vietnamese aggressors, and Vietnam's puppets to implement the Paris Accord. Organizing an election in such a situation is a great mistake in regard to the UN Charter,

the Cambodian people's right to self-determination, and the cause for peace and stability in the region.

Concerning the UN secretary general's visit to Phnom Penh, the PDK spokesman said that the Cambodian people hope that the secretary general will clearly realize for himself that it is not only the PDK which opposes the UNTAC-organized election; the Cambodian nation and people in and outside the country also oppose this election. The secretary general will clearly see that the goal of this election is to prepare for the legitimization of the Vietnamese aggressors' continued occupation of Cambodia.

The strategy of the Vietnamese aggressors and Vietnam's puppets to annex Cambodia through a military war has been defeated. This is why Vietnam was forced to sign the Paris agreement. However, Vietnam has not given up Cambodia. On the contrary, the Vietnamese aggressors have been doing their best and have used all means to annex Cambodia and achieve its Indochinese federation strategy. The election being organized by UNTAC and Western powers is very dangerous to the survival of the Cambodian nation, people, and race. This also encourages aggressors to trample on the UN Charter and international law. It affects the peace, security, and stability of the whole world.

Chea Sim Urges Citizens To Vote for CPP

BK0804120393 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 7 Apr 93

["Message from His Excellency Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party, to compatriots;" place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] My respects to all venerable monks and beloved compatriots:

At present, our country is in the final stage of implementing the peace agreement leading toward the election which will be held in the near future. On behalf of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], I would like to express great delight, commendation, and deep gratitude to all venerable monks and beloved compatriots who have supported and are supporting the cause of struggle for independence, peace, and national reconciliation and construction—the unswerving patriotic goals and ideals pursued by the CPP in the past, now, and in the future. It is the support, sacrifices, and great efforts of compatriots that have enabled the CPP and Government of the State of Cambodia [SOC] to realize their historic mission of the past 14 years—that is, the liberation of our country from genocidal dangers and preventing the (?evil) regime's return.

At the same time, we have revived our national society and enabled it today to develop in all fields with independence and national sovereignty on the basis of a policy of rallying patriotic forces from all circles in and outside the country into a great bond of national union and reconciliation in order to jointly defend and build our beloved country. This is the truth, recognized by national and international opinion, which has acknowledged and expressed the hope that in the future the CPP will be the only political party that is suitable to assume the core role in national reconciliation.

On this auspicious occasion, I would like to pass on the following sincere words from the CPP to all beloved compatriots to ponder before they take part in the general election in May 1993:

1. Our Cambodian people have suffered miserably because of the genocidal acts and bad consequences of war. Therefore, they fervently want to achieve peace so that they can rapidly rebuild and develop the country and make it glorious and prosperous like other civilized countries the world over.

Since its birth the CPP has always stood by the side of the people, sharing weal and woe with them under all circumstances. It clearly understands the scope of misery and the sacred aspirations of the Cambodian people who want to end the war that others have forced us to wage. The CPP has, therefore, adopted a policy and carried out activities aimed at ending the war and poverty for the nation's bright future. The concrete implementation of the CPP's (?two) major goals [words indistinct] particularly when the country was in the abyss of blood and tears under the genocidal Pol Pot regime that lasted for three years, eight months, and 20 days; only the CPP, and no other political party, dared to rise up and topple this wicked regime on 7 January 1979. Since then, the CPP has remained the sole political party with the determination, capability, and competence to prevent the genocidal regime from returning to power.

Following the 7 January 1979 national liberation day, the Cambodian people should have lived in peace; on the contrary, [words indistinct] created by the genocidal Pol Pot group and its allies. In such a situation the war, along with carrying out the historic mission, which forces us to oppose the [words indistinct] war, the CPP has made every effort to implement the policy of peace and national reunification, which is the fundamental policy of the CPP. Since we have founded the (?Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense), with a national reconciliation spirit [words indistinct] the CPP has (?confronted all kinds of problems) in negotiations searching for a political solution for the Cambodian people until achieving the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement.

Over the past year, we have made efforts to faithfully implement this historic agreement. We [words indistinct] liberal democratic and multiparty policy. The CPP and our SOC, as the side administering nearly the entire country and people, have with goodwill made concessions by accepting the elections organized and supervised by UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] and allowing the Supreme National Council [SNC] and various political

parties to set up offices in Phnom Penh and nationwide. All these gestures [words indistinct] aimed at enabling the elections to proceed as planned.

However, the Khmer Rouge have not yet given up their old idea of trying to regain power through military means. They have used unreasonable pretexts and have carried out many activities violating the peace agreement. They have [words indistinct] genocidal [words indistinct] and refused to take part in elections. Furthermore, a number of political parties which used to cooperate with the Khmer Rouge, have been collaborating with the Khmer Rouge policy and cruel activities [words indistinct] of the CPP and the SOC who have allowed them to be present in the country and to do anything, including (?criminal) activities, without any consideration for the people. This is with the aim of serving their political ambitions, for example propaganda aimed at frightening the people, terrorist acts and murders aimed at creating confusion and panic in market places [words indistinct] leaders of the CPP and the SOC. Our compatriots have never experienced this before.

Thus our people have clearly seen whether these persons love the nation, the people, and peace as they claim. Furthermore, can our compatriots put the destiny and future of the country, as well as their own, in the hands of the Khmer Rouge and their accomplices? Morever, it is very correct that our compatriots have asked this question: When will these politicians desert us?

I believe that all our compatriots, in both urban and rural areas, will never allow the bitter and horrendous history of April 1975 to repeat. On this occasion I would also like to inform [words indistinct] in any situation or circumstance the CPP will protect human rights and resolutely oppose the policy of genocide. As long as the CPP exists, the Pol Pot genocidal regime can never return to Cambodia, and I pledge that after the elections the CPP will cooperate with all nationalist forces aimed at setting up a national movement to defend human rights and [words indistinct] cruel activities of Khmer Rouge bandits, and prevent [words indistinct].

2. The protracted war and genocidal acts [words indistinct] our nation and people. Between 1975 and 1978, over 3 million of our residents were massacred and the national economic basis completely destroyed [words indistinct]; and customs and traditions obliterated [words indistinct] 7 January 1979 each one of us was exhausted, affected by disease, and profoundly perturbed psychologically. We have united around the CPP to face a difficult life of hardship and opposed the Khmer Rouge and their allies who continue to harass and destroy us continuously in their attempt to return to power again.

Starting from this most difficult situation, and thanks to the CPP leadership, which coincides with the people's aspiration, we have successfully thwarted the genocidal regime's return, revived society and the nation, and created conditions for continued development in the future. [Words indistinct] and desolate areas, our people have made efforts to reclaim and clear new land. To this day we have reclaimed and cleared over 2 million hectares. Schools, hospitals, infirmaries [words indistinct] of the people, warehouse storing ammunition and explosives, [words indistinct] so far we have over 5,000 schools of all grades and over 1.7 million students; over 70,000 students are engaged in [words indistinct] studies. There are over 1,500 infirmaries and over [number indistinct] medical staff, including over (?1,000) doctors. Buddhism is practiced and has been promoted as the state religion while activities by other religions have been assured. National customs and traditions have been restored and expanded. People's rights and freedom have been respected and protected by law. The country has been transformed from a closed country without relations with the world to one with extensive relations with countries the world over. We have created things which did not exist. We have remarkably revived and developed many areas.

For us, who know about hardship at a time when we had [words indistinct] when we started, we have made efforts to work for more than 14 years in a difficult and complex situation, we can clearly claim that the achievements scored by our people under the CPP leadership are immense and (?precious); they are achievements made from the sweat and blood of the people themselves. This is our great pride, despite criticism saying that we are incompetent, voiced by a number of political parties that have not yet done anything for the people, particularly at a time when the country and nation were facing dangers in the past. We do not boast that our regime is efficient or perfect. We clearly know the difficulties and shortcomings that we need to overcome. We believe that we can overcome them in our firm advance in the future.

Furthermore, although a number of parties have made efforts to paint us as a communist regime, our people, who have directly contributed to national construction, do know the nature of the SOC regime, a regime born from the Cambodian people, which has survived because of the people, and which has voluntarily served the people's interests. On the stretch of complicated road over the past more than 14 years, through the real situation in Cambodia and in accordance with the people's interests, we have sucessively improved our regime [words indistinct], political reforms, [words indistinct] free market [passage indistinct] not infringing on anyone's interests. The idelogy we have adopted is realism with the people's interests and ability as catalysts and goals. For this reason our people have been able to revive everything. It is obvious that during the past 14 years, without the harassment and destruction by the Khmer Rouge and their allies, our achievements would certainly have been a lot greater than this.

In short, what we have achieved with our own sweat and blood during the past more than 14 years is noble, precious, and priceless. The CPP has amassed noble and precious experience. These are drawn from providing leadership to society and the nation in difficult, special,

and extraordinary circumstances, unlike other countries. These are experiences in rallying forces to [words indistinct], in solving problems left over by war and genocide, and experience in a protracted struggle to implement a national reconciliation policy until achieving a peace agreement. The CPP has experience in leading, defending, and building the country in a fluid situation of peace and war at the same time. It has experience in the defense of the national economy, territorial integrity, and expansion of international relations for the cause of the nation and the world. It is still the people and the CPP [words indistinct] to defend the gains. They have resolutely pledged not to let the genocidal regime return.

[Words indistinct] only the CPP has the ability and determination to continue defending [words indistinct] and these gains. Therefore, I firmly hope that compatriots will certainly not support any political parties [words indistinct] return of the genocidal regime or the destruction of gains we have scored over the past more than 14 years.

Beloved compatriots: The general elections organized by the United Nations will be solemnly held shortly. Each one of our Cambodian people, age 18 and above, who have registered, have the right to vote and select political parties they trust to lead the country in the future. This is an important political event and vital to the destiny of our country and people.

The CPP [words indistinct] will strive to do everything and cooperate well with UNTAC and other sides to create conditions for the successful elections. The CPP consider this election the (?shortest) way to move toward ending the people's suffering. As for the Khmer Rouge who refuse to take part in the election and political parties that are (?undecided) about participating in the election, compatriots can clearly see that they are enemies of peace and enemies of the Cambodian people who want peace. They have raised various pretexts, particularly saying that the political atmosphere is not secure for holding an election. In fact it is these people who create a troubled atmosphere which destroys the election. These people's criminal activities are systematic: military activities from outside and terrorism and sabotage inside the country. There is evidence for all this. These activities are aimed at destroying the political influence of the CPP. Their goal is the destruction of the election.

Therefore, to this day, and to say it clearly, the Khmer Rouge remain the Khmer Rouge and murderers remain murderers. There is no change in their ambition to return to power in Cambodia through military means. The danger of the genocidal regime's return [words indistinct] is not something made up to frighten people with a political goal. Thus, a vote from each compatriot can help the nation survive and develop the way it does; however, it can also help the genocidal regime return to massacring the people and ruining the Cambodian society. None of our Cambodian compatriots loves the genocidal regime. The Khmer Rouge do not take part in the election but their allies do; their (?intention) is to (?compete) with the CPP.

Therefore, in this election if compatriots make a wrong choice by selecting the parties that are Khmer Rouge allies or that have no capability to oppose the Khmer Rouge, the danger of the past will certainly occur again. I firmly believe that all compatriots have already made a choice in their heart without (?hesitation) to vote for the CPP, which is the only party with firm political forces and sufficient capability to ensure that the genocidal regime does not return.

Apart from guaranteeing that the genocidal Pol Pot regime will not return, the CPP has clearly set out its task to solve relevant issues which seriously affect peace and national reconciliation, national development, [words indistinct], with a clear goal [words indistinct] to the people's life, particularly [words indistinct] facing difficulties [words indistinct].

Today, I would like to declare the basic guarantee of the CPP. If the CPP is trusted by the people in the election, the CPP pledges to protect legitimate ownership of the people [words indistinct] and other production means, (?including) various agreements, (?certificates), and so on. [passage indistinct] confusion and fighting would immediately break out between new and old owners. Unpredictable confusion would follow, thus creating circumstances for the return of the (?Pol Pot) group in the end.

Beloved compatriots: You have to face the situation squarely. [words indistinct] what other political parties have done for the people while the latter were suffering. What are they doing now and have they solved anything for the people? Can they be relied upon in the future? [words indistinct] political parties colluding with the Khmer Rouge? Can they control the Khmer Rouge who have armed forces? [words indistinct]

As for the CPP, compatriots will not find it difficult to answer these questions: Who [words indistinct] the nation and who will prevent the return of the genocidal regime? Who has revived the nation and country? Who has [words indistinct] peace agreement? Who is the determining factor in ensuring that the election can proceed? [words indistinct] compatriots support for the CPP. [words indistinct] compatriots will not find it difficult to vote for the CPP. Voting for the CPP is voting for those who have helped revive the nation [words indistinct], and for those who pledge to protect your lives and current ownership, jobs, and rights and freedom. This is voting for the angels so that the latter continue to help us.

I would like to take this opportunity to pray that the new year's angels bring quick happiness, peace, security, and national reconciliation to our beloved Angkor motherland. May the clergy and compatriots enjoy the five Buddhist blessings.

Thank you.

Campaigns in Kompong Speu

BK0904092593 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] On the morning of 8 April, His Excellency Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and chairman of both the National Assembly and the National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense, presided over a ceremony to inaugurate (Kalaproek) high school and mark the achievements of Vat (Cheh Roteh) monastery, Choeung Ruk commune, Kong Pisei District, Kompong Speu Province. He was accompanied by Say Chhum, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Long Phim, deputy minister of religious affairs; and many high-ranking government officials.

(Kalaproek) high school is a brand new achievement realized with the assistance of the CPP and generous persons in Phnom Penh as well as local monks and people. The high school comprises seven structures built with concrete and covered with tiles at an approximate cost of over 182 million riel. Other achievements at the monastery—such as the guest house, reliquaries, monk's cells, and the road leading to the monastery—were all built with the united forces of our local people and also our State of Cambodia's party and government.

His Excellency Chea Sim expressed his great appreciation for these achievements and considered them as new developments among the achievements we have scored in the past more than 11 years. His excellency the chairman of the CPP pointed out that in the past the monastery in Kong Pisei District did not have a high school; however, now we have built one to facilitate our children's studies. This is concrete proof showing development in our education sector, which was destroyed by the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Chairman Chea Sim also praised the improvement of the people's living standards under the CPP's leadership. This is in complete contrast with the genocidal Pol Pot regime. We have enough to eat and have been living comfortably over the past more than 11 years, thanks to the precious deeds of the CPP.

Chea Sim stressed that the election campaign has now started. Various political parties are making efforts to attract public attention. Thus, our compatriots should have a clear understanding about good and bad parties and the party that saved us from death on 7 January 1979.

Concerning the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party, Chea Sim explained that His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, at present and in the future, is not chairman of this party; he is the father of the nation and neutral; he is our parent. As for the FUNCINPEC Party, it is an ally of the Khmer Rouge, which is carrying out genocidal, terrorist, and sabotage activities against our people. Our compatriots should clearly think about this. Most important is that during the election the genocidal Pol Pot regime must be prevented from returning to power so that our motherland may enjoy genuine peace and security. Voting for the CPP is like voting for ourselves and those who have saved our lives. It could also ensure our lives, rights and freedom, and legitimate ownership in the future. Voting for the CPP will also ensure against the genocidal danger.

Indonesia

Further Reportage on UN Special Envoy's Visit

Wako Questions Protesters' Rights

BK0804122293 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1001 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Jakarta, Apr 8 (OANA-ANTARA)—Visiting U.N. special envoy Amos Wako asked about legal processes against protesters in Indonesia to Minister of Justice Utoyo Usman as some foreign non-governmental organizations (NGOs) said that they were threatened with heavy sentences.

Answering the question, I explained to him that their cynical opinion were groundless, since we have put them on trial fairly and proportionally in accordance with our legal system, Minister Utoyo Usman told reporters here Thursday after meeting with Amos Wako, who is Kenyan minister of justice and attorney general.

He also denied that all the protesters would be handed down with heavy sentence and even sentenced to death. The court will first clarify their cases to determine the category of their crimes or misconducts in the demonstrations, he said. Of course each case needs different handling, he added.

However, he admitted that according to the Indonesian law, a protestor might face a capital punishment for launching subversive acts.

Minister Utoyo said the U.N. envoy seemed to understand and accepted of what the minister explained about the legal system in Indonesia.

During his previous visit to Indonesia in February last year, Wako sought information on November 12, 1991 Dili incident. At that time he failed to meet the then minister of justice, but he had an opportunity to meet Attorney General Singgih. On that occasion, the two ministers also exchanged information relating to legal matters in their respective countries.

As developing countries, Indonesia and Kenya have common problems concerning development of legal system to replace obsolete ones.

Following his meeting with Minister Utoyo Usman, Amos Wako then had a meeting with Attorney General

Singgih, during which he asked questions about various matters related to the trial of those involved in the Dili incident.

Attorney General Guarantees Legal Process

BK0804122493 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1010 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Jakarta, Apr 08 (OANA-ANTARA)—UN special envoy Amos Wako received a guarantee from the Indonesian Attorney General Thursday that the rights of the demonstrators involved in the Dili incident on November 12, 1991 and in Jakarta on November 19, 1991 would be respected, the Attorney General Office spokesman, Suparman, said.

Attorney General Singgih held a meeting with Wako that day during which he explained fully about the legal processes to be taken by the suspects and accused in the demonstration cases. The attorney general said that their rights would be fulfilled fully, Suparman said.

Wako, Suparman said, had asked about the process of justice for the suspects and accused in the two cases. Wako declined to give any comments on the result of his meeting with Attorney General Singgih and only said "good wisdom" without further details.

Singgih meanwhile said that he had given him full explanation about the court procedures for the demonstrators and also Xanana Gusmao. He said Wako responded well the explanation.

When asked whether Wako was satisfied Singgih said yes. Didn't he tell that he was, referring to the word "good wisdom" Wako had said. Singgih said he meant that the suspects would be accompanied by lawyers, given rights for appeal, cessation and presidential pardon when he said that the rights of the suspect will be given fully and completely.

The suspects and the accused are also to be given an opportunity to ask for a review if new evidence is found that will reduce the sentence or free them.

Wako who is a Kenyan minister of justice and attorney general has met the Indonesian attorney general three times with the first as a UN special envoy in February 1992 and the second during the Non- Aligned Movement summit in September 1992.

Laos

'Tough Choices' Needed To Continue Economic 'Boom'

BK0904024593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Apr 93 p 10

[Text] Laos, enjoying a miniature boom after open door economic policies were announced a few years ago, is now facing tough choices about the path it should take to development, aid workers to the country said.

American Bruce Shoemaker and Thai Somphon Phancharunit spent the past three years in Laos working on aid projects around the country, mostly in the north with Quaker Service Laos, an aid organisation that has long been active there.

They told foreign reporters in Bangkok that communist Laos was definitely coming alive with the movement towards a market economy.

"You see a lot more economic vibrancy in Vientiane and increasingly in provincial and district towns, changes which have come about because of the opening of markets and increase in trade," Shoemaker said.

Relations with rich neighbours China and Thailand had improved dramatically and trade was flourishing on a small scale as Chinese crossed the border to northern Laos to buy forestry products and sell construction materials, they said.

One sleepy village was starting to look like a parking lot, Somphon said, because of the Mercedes-Benz cars waiting to cross the border into China after traders had driven them from Thailand.

A new class of successful business people was emerging, focused fol now on the import-export trade and tourism, they said. New leaders in place since a cabinet reshuffle was announced in late February were still committed to the idea of further economic liberalisation, at least publicly.

All the activity, which has helped drive economic growth to 5-7 per cent levels in recent years, is like summer rain to the economically parched nation, which still has an annual per capita income of well under US$200 (about 5,000 baht).

But officials must now also confront some of the well-known side- effects of development, most obvious just across the Mekong River in Thailand, which they see as suffering from degradation of culture and resources.

"I found a lot of concern among Lao decision-makers about the economic choices they face, the need to really try to gain more money, more development, quickly, but the need for the tradeoffs that entails," Shoemaker said.

Building of hydroelectric dam requires bulldozing in pristine jungle, for one example. Another is in logging, which is destroying rainforests throughout South-East Asia.

"I think it's too much to ask for a Lao government administrator to say you have to forego this money for the sake of future generations or protecting biodiversity," Shoemaker said. "We don't do that in my own country very well yet." .

Pointing out that the budget for the entire country is just US$130 million (about 3.25 billion baht), he emphasised that Laos was still very poor.

"Government staff go many months without receiving their salaries sometimes, and it has a very corrosive

impact on morale or the ability of government people on the local level to be able to carry out their work," he said.

The ruling Lao People's Revolutionary Party maintains tight political control, but strong opposition to the communist regime does exist among hundreds of thousands who fled abroad from the early days of hardline communist rule.

Those political exiles are now playing an important role in rebuilding the country's shattered economy.

Shoemaker and Somphon said investment from exiled Laotians was significant, much of it routed through family members who stayed in Laos but had relatives overseas.

"They're a driving force for a lot of construction of houses and small-business development," Shoemaker said.

Authorities Capture Counterfeit Dollar Trader

BK0804131793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] On 31 March, economic police authorities of Luang Namtha Province arrested a person who was trying to sell and to exchange fake dollar bills for Lao currency at the Luang Namtha marketplace. According to the police report, the suspect's name is (Mao Po), 24, a Chinese national who illegally entered the province on 29 March. At present, the Luang Namtha provincial authorities are cooperating with local Chinese counterparts to carry out an interrogation of the suspect and to conduct an investigation into the case.

Xieng Khouang Province Opposes 'Bad Elements'

93P30042A Vientiane PASASON in Lao 10 Feb 93 p 3

[Article by Ming Ko in 'Social Problems' column]

[Excerpts] One of the social problems in Xieng Khouang Province's rural areas is our compatriots who have strayed and fallen victim to the deception of the bad elements. They had previously fled to the forest to resist the new regime of the LPDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic]. Now they are coming back in great numbers to their original homes in Xieng Khouang Province.

Pha Sai District Chief Phoumi Silavong told us that around October of 1990 we had conducted agitation campaigns calling upon our compatriots in the forest to return. More than 1,000 in 200 families gave themselves up. [passage omitted]

Xieng Khouang Province paid attention to this agitation and called upon them to return and see clearly and become fed up with the totally false deceptive tricks of the bad elements. Uncle Xoua Va, the deputy village chief of Ban Na Mo Mai told us of his bitter feelings: "It has been more than a year since we left the forest. That was in July 1991. Coming back to the party and the state is better than living in the forest because of the extreme hardship. There was no rice. We had only manioc in place of rice. There was no salt, no clothing, no medicine, no schools for the children. If one got sick, they were treated with traditional medicines by shamans. If you recovered, good; if not, you died. The bad elements had nothing to give us. Their only organization was for banditry. They would make us forage for manioc for them to eat. Moreover, they were falsely propagandizing that anyone who returned [to LPDR control] would be rounded up with their families and property. Males would be sent to the military or killed in Vietnam." As for his method of escape, he strongly emphasized that "before coming home, I picked up leaflets disseminated by the Party and the state in the area where I had been staying. I hid them and when I had read and understood their message, I persuaded my relatives to flee also. We didn't tell anyone. If they had found out, we would have been killed." [passage omitted]

Xieng Khouang Governor Phoumi Thipphavon said that "provincial authorities are paying attention to carrying out policies for those who strayed and who have returned." This means that the province has provided assistance, especially by building housing and providing things like utensils for families. Stable livelihoods are being provided for them and more than 100 hectares of land for production have been cleared. [pass[illegible] omitted]

Uncle Xoua Va said sincerely: "Now that I've returned there will not be a second return to the Chao Fa [resistance organization]."

Philippines

Regulatory Board Approves Power Rate Hike

HK0704031393 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 7 Apr 93 p 1

[Text] The Energy Regulatory Board (ERB) yesterday ruled that the National Power Corp. (Napocor) can increase its power rate by P0.0557 [Philippine pesos] per kilowatt-hour. Moreover, it can recover another P0.17/kwh retroactive for 11 months and another P0.0557/kwh retroactive for 15 months. However, Energy Secretary Delfin Lazaro told Business World he will propose to the Napocor board that the rate increase be pegged at P0.18/kwh starting April instead of the cumulative P0.225/kwh. The Napocor board is scheduled to meet on Monday.

Mr. Lazaro's statement jives with Malacanang's position for an average P0.18/kwh increase. Should the rate increase start this month, Napocor can still apply the increase retroactive to January. However, Mr. Lazaro said the board will consider applying it to only the February and March billing period as collections for these months may be enough for Napocor to reach its desired return on rate base (RORB) of 8%. The P0.36/kwh for the two months will be averaged out from July 1993 to June 1994, resulting in an additional P0.03/kwh on top of the P0.18/kwh, or P0.21/kwh.

Mr. Lazaro said the additional P0.21/kwh will eventually taper off to only P0.0557/kwh after the power firm has been allowed to recover its lost revenues of P4.6 billion because of the non-implementation of the P0.17/kwh rate hike in 1991 and the P0.0557/kwh increase in 1992. In 1991, Napocor incurred a P2.9-billion loss. With the implementation of the P0.2245/kwh rate hike in January, which was later reduced to P0.1745/kwh in May, Napocor was able to register a turnaround of P1.9 billion in 1992. Napocor still has a pending P0.18/kwh power rate increase this year which was restrained by the Supreme Court.

ERB chairman Rex Tantiongco explained that ERB can only rule on a P0.0557/kwh rate hike as this would allow the power firm to reach a 10% RORB. Before the signing of the Electric Power Crisis Act, Napocor was allowed a 10% ceiling on its RORB. Public utilities like the Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) are allowed a 12% RORB. With the new law, Napocor's RORB ceiling is now 12%.

Mr. Tantiongco clarified that they cannot give a full P0.17/kwh rate hike as Napocor has already implemented a P0.1745/kwh rate hike last year. Thus, if another P0.17/kwh rate hike is granted, Napocor would hit a 13.12% RORB, thereby exceeding the 10% RORB ceiling. He said their review of the P0.17/kwh rate hike was based on historical data. Thus, there might be changes in the valuation of assets for 1993 which may give Napocor the opportunity to warrant another rate increase.

ERB's decision drew flak from the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP). TUCP national spokesman Homer Punsalan said the increase "is a very heavy economic cross for consumers to bear, akin to the cross borne by Jesus Christ on his way to his crucifixion." He raised the possibility of mass actions against the power rate hike, stating "the sentiment among workers is very much leaning (sic) towards holding mass actions in protest." He said the TUCP general council will discuss this option when it meets in emergency session this week.

Central Bank Eases Foreign Loan Guidelines

HK0604040693 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 6 Apr 93 p B-1

[Report by Fil C. Sionil]

[Text] Purchase of local components by public and private corporations may now be fully bankrolled with medium- and long-term foreign loans.

The Monetary Board [MB], policy-making body of the Central Bank [CB] said this latest move further relaxed foreign exchange transactions to enhance a better business environment in the country and to assist the export sector.

In the past, public and private firms were allowed to source funds from international creditors but could finance only 50 percent of local requirements with such loans.

Under the new ruling public and private corporations could now avail of foreign credit to defray the entire amount of local procured component.

CB Governor Jose L. Cuisia Jr. stressed that domestic corporations wanting to tap the international financing would still have to get CB clearance and approval on the availment.

Cuisia explained that the MB decision would mean "lower financing" cost for local firms since interest rates in the international market are currently on the downside in contrast to a relatively higher cost in the domestic market.

As of last week, the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) stood at 3.25 percent for 90 day borrowings and 3.36 percent for 180-day maturity.

On the other hand, bank lending rates here fetched from 16.23 to 20 percent for medium term borrowings and 15.7 percent for long-term maturity.

Although, exporters or local manufacturers have the foreign exchange risk.

"They can lower their financing cost because they can avail of the interest foreign loans," Cuisia said.

The MB ruling, however, has yet to take effect as the CB still has to issue to circular on the forex deregulation measure.

Last week, Cuisia revealed that the board also decided to allow the sale of dollars by the banking system without "documentary evidence" for education, medical expenses and other purposes.

The only requirement in buying the greenbacks is for the buyer to fill up the monitoring sheet.

Also last week, the board allowed overseas banking units (OBUs) to accept dollar deposits from non-residents without limitations in contrast to the previous regulation of a minimum of $50,000.

Meanwhile, donor countries which have put close to $10 billion into the Philippines' five-year aid program have urged the government to speed up changes in import taxation and heighten focus on social programs, officials said.

Donors want Manila to change its system of computing duties on imports to ensure that tariff schedules are stable, Socio-economic Planning Secretary Cielito Habito said after a meeting with donors. She said the government now planned to change the existing system which is based on home consumption value.

"They (donors) thought this would be a very important signal to send to the global community about our seriousness in putting in place a level playing field," Allan Ortiz, who heads a presidential body that oversees the aid programme, said.

Thailand

Minister Acts To Prevent U.S. Sanctions

BK0904015593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Apr 93 p B2

[By Atchara Phongwutthitham]

[Text] The Commerce Ministry is ready to propose a regulation draft declaring video tapes and compact discs [CDs] as controlled merchandise in an attempt to avoid trade retaliation by the US, according to an informed source.

Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon yesterday continued his efforts to try and get Thailand off the US trade retaliation list by meeting the representative of a Sony Corp affiliate in the United States, asking the firm to lobby in favour of Thailand.

An informed source said Utbai was to submit the draft for the Prime Minister [PM] to sign yesterday. The draft is expected to be immediately effective after signing.

Such an attempt is seen as a solution to resolve the current trade dispute between Thailand and the US on intellectual property rights, and might prevent Thailand from being hurt by the US government's Section 301 trade act.

The draft was proposed under three pieces of Thai Acts consisting of the Copyright Act of B.E.2534; Consumer Protection Act of B.E.2521; and Tape Business and Television Materials Control of B.E.2530.

In the draft, video tapes and CDs, as controlled merchandise, need a retail price tag to be attached. The draft also called for the production and sale of video tapes and CDs as activities needed a registrar's permission under tapes and television material control of B.E. 2530.

The draft also gives more powers to officials from both the Interior and Commerce Ministry, and those from PM's Office and Commerce Ministry under B.E. 2530 Tape Business and television material control act; and B.E. 2521 consumers protection act respectively.

As a consequence, officials from the related authorities will have power to arrest and punish video tape and CD pirates.

According to the same source, the regulation draft, after having the Prime Minister's signature, will be effective, once published in the Royal Gazette.

It is expected that the draft will be immediately published and Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak will supervise the act, according to the source.

The same source also said that by issuing the draft, Thailand expects the tension will be eased. The action will also convince the US government that Thailand can be seriously taken in its attitude towards intellectual property rights violation.

Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon asked the representative of a US affiliate of a Japanese company to convince the US Trade Representative [USTR] that Thailand is seriously taking action on the intellectual property right violation.

Uthai told the reporters after meeting with Sony Corp's Director Michael P Schulhof yesterday that Sony, one of the US companies which filed a complaint to the USTR against Thailand asking for harsher retaliation measures, was informed that the country has taken a more serious stance to suppress the intellectual property rights violation.

According to Uthai, they should later tell the USTR of the country's new stance and Thailand, therefore, should be given a chance before any retaliation is decided.

However, Uthai said that the Director of Sony was satisfied with Thailand's new stance after being informed.

Schulhof also said that Sony plans to expand its industries to produce films and tape recorders in Thailand, but still hesitated to do so due to the wide violation of copyrights in Thailand.

Uthai, however, said that if Thailand does not do anything seriously, the country will fall into a greater risk of incurring US retaliation which could greatly damage the local economy.

Currently, the US market accounts for at least 20 per cent of the total Thai export worth US$800,000,000 million worldwide.

"It is unjustified to let only a few copyrights violators making fake products without paying any taxes to at the same time damage the country's economy," said Uthai.

Schulhof said that Sony's investment, if realized, would be big and would push for Thai music production to be marketed worldwide.

"Thailand should have been able to solve this problem (rather than putting) it currently to us right now. Thailand's copyright violating problems have not yet succeeded in being solved after five years," said Schulhof.

He also said that Uthai had committed himself to greater restriction and suppression of copyright violations.

240 Arrested During 3-Month Crackdown on Piracy

BK0904021993 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Apr 93 p B2

[Text] Prosecutors said yesterday that 240 people have been arrested in a three-month crackdown on piracy of such items as books and computer sofsware and counterfeiting of famous foreign brand products.

The crackdown, begun in January under international pressure, resulted in confiscation of 4,295,767 counterfeit or pirated books, tapes and other products.

Crackdown Intensifies

BK0904020793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Apr 93 p A1

[Excerpt] Police yesterday raided Phanthip Plaza and Ma Bunkhrong shopping centres after receiving complaints from prominent US computer software manufacturers citing rampant sales of pirated software there.

The raids came as Thai authorities are intensifying a crackdown on copyright violators in an apparent bid to pacify the United States which is due to decide soon whether to impose retaliatory measures against Thailand for "unfair trade practices".

The raids saw the arrests of the owners of four shops. About 600 allegedly unauthorized copies of computer textbooks and 355 diskettes of software were impounded.

Rut Nopphakhun and Anurak chatnok yesterday represented the US software distributors—including Microsoft Corporation, Lotus Development Co, Nowell Co, and Word Perfect Corporation—in filing complaints with Crime Suppression Division Commander Pol Maj Gen [Police Major General] Luan Phanaratthit.

The two representatives were led by Suchit Aphiradi, adviser to Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon.

At Panthip Plaza, Suchin Daphan Sing Narula, owner of Magic Soft, Phranom Bunphluk, owner of Q Soft and Suchat Limphiwet, owner of ABC Computer, were arrested. At Mah Bunkhrong, Chaiyan Sichaem, owner of Software Centre, was arrested.

However, observers said the seized items represented only the "tip of the iceberg" as the two centres, especially Phanthip Plaza, had become international hubs for vendors and buyers of cheap pirated software. Many of the shops involved in the trade are run by Taiwanese and Indians.

Buyers can obtain copies of pirated software for less than Bt[baht]100 per disk.

Software recorded on five disks can be bought for only about Bt300-500 including the cost of the disks, compared to about Bt2,000-3,000 for the genuine product.

Most computer textbooks on sale at Phanthip Plaza appear to be photocopies of authorized texts and are sold very cheaply compared with the genuine article.

"I can buy a computer game here at Phanthip Plaza for only Bt200 instead of paying Bt2,000 for the genuine model," a buyer, who asked not to be named, told THE NATION. "And I enjoy them very much."

Microsoft is a giant US software distributor. It produces the indispensable Diskette Operating System (DOS) necessary to operate personal computers.

In addition to the crackdown on computer software piracy, Thai authorities have launched a new campaign against pirated video tapes and music recordings. [passage omitted]

Forces Closure of Retail Outlets

BK0904025393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Apr 93 p 3

[Text] The police crackdown against copyright pirates has forced several video cassette retail outlets to close down or resort to the sale of pornographic videos and karaoke cassettes.

A recent random survey by Bangkok Post at Khlong Thom market Patpong and Mah Bunkhrong shopping complex, the largest retail outlets of pirated videotapes, found that pirated tapes had virtually disappeared from most counters.

The outlets trying to stay in business are only displaying pornographic and karaoke tapes even though these attract fewer customers.

"The Government should have given us a reprieve because this problem has been ignored a long time. We were caught totally unaware," said one videotape retailer in Mah Bunkrong shopping arcade Wednesday.

He said pirated videotapes had been warmly received by customers as home entertainment, and it usually took six months after the showing of films for them to be released as copyrighted movie videos.

"But pirated movies are available quickly. We had regular deliveries of soundtrack movies or those dubbed in Thai," he said.

A video rental outlet in the Lat Phrao area complained the crackdown had also affected the video rental business even though the crackdown was aimed supposedly at the cowing and distribution of pirated tapes.

He said most customers did not want to see old movies on copyrighted tapes and many were turning to cable or satellite television.

One video rental outlet dealing in copyrighted tapes said legitimate businesses would survive the crackdown even though they may suffer somewhat in the beginning. Wimon Thamrong, the manager of a rental outlet in the Pratunam market, said it was better under the present circumstances to engage in other businesses than renting videotapes because of the stiff competition and the lack of new movies.

Sukhum Chat-Ariyakun, owner of the 79 Video Shop on Sukhumvit Road in the Phra Khanong area, said the business still had good prospects.

Mr Sukhum, who owns seven video outlets in the Sukhumvit area and plans two more in about three more

months, said the rental business would survive if operators attended to their business and provided good copyrighted movies.

He said he had been in the legitimate business for 10 years and the police crackdown against pirated tapes would not affect his operations.

Paper Urges Decisive Action Against Tape Pirates

BK0904085193 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 9 Apr 93 p 4

[Editorial: "Selfishness Destroys the Country"]

[Text] A number of selfish people have long been engaging in activities which are doing inestimable damage to the country by copying foreign video and music tapes to sell locally with total disregard for copyright holders. The United States has complained about this matter for some time and has asked Thailand to enact laws to protect U.S. copyright holders in Thailand. However, Thai compliance with this request has been delayed by the Thai Government—which was toppled by a coup—until today.

The U.S. Government is reportedly taking this matter seriously and planning to cut privileges under the Generalized System of Preference [GSP] for Thai imports, or increase import duties. The Thai Government is reportedly trying to negotiate and formulate plans to drastically suppress fake tapes. But suppression will not be easy because punishment as stipulated by the relevant law is too lenient to deter the selfish copyright violators. Moreover, it is unlikely that suppression efforts can be carried out in a thorough manner. Perhaps suppression can be carried out only if complaints are made.

The income for video and tape pirates is reportedly so large that it enables them to influence politicians or political parties to shift attention from the issue or to prolong as long as possible any enactment of the law as requested by the United States. These people wage public relations campaigns to confuse the public and make it appear that the United States is pressuring Thailand as if it is its master, when in fact it is the pirates' activities which are damaging the country. They behave like pirates who usurp other people's rights.

Some people feel that pirated tapes enable Thai people to entertain themselves at little cost; paying for copyrights would at least double the price of tapes. In the process, the selfish pirates are earning one or two billion baht annually at the expense of economic interests of the country at large. If the United States cuts GSP or raises import duties, Thailand's loss could amount to hundreds of billions of baht.

We appeal to Prime Minister Chuan Likphai to forget for a while his position as party leader and use decisive power as prime minister to issue instructions that will provide a blanket remedy to this problem as soon as possible in order to avert the major loss which could occur as the result of the action of a few selfish people.

Further Reportage on Indian Premier's Visit

Rao, UN Chief Discuss Cambodia

BK0904034893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] In Bangkok, Prime Minister Mr. Narasimha Rao and the U.N. secretary general, Mr. Butrus-Ghali, had a discussion yesterday on the latest situation in Cambodia. Mr. Butrus-Ghali, who called on Mr. Narasimha Rao, who is on a four-day visit to Thailand, briefed Mr. Rao of the serious situation in Cambodia following refusal of the Khmer Rouge to implement the UN-sponsored peace plan. The Indian prime minister was also informed of the Khmer Rouge's decision to boycott the coming general elections next month.

Earlier, Mr. Narasimha Rao met the envoys of the Indian missions in South East Asia and asked them to give a greater economic thrust in their diplomacy in light of the liberal economic programs in India.

Joint Antiterrorism Statement Issued

BK0904053893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0435 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] India and Thailand have reiterated their resolve to combat terrorism in all its forms. In a joint press statement issued in the Thai capital Bangkok, on the penultimate day of Mr. Narasimha Rao's visit to Thailand, the two countries took note of the growing menace of drug trafficking and cross-border terrorism which have become a common concern of all nations.

The prime ministers of India and Thailand have also upheld the important role of the nonaligned movement in promoting peace, economic development, and cooperation among the North-South, as well as the South-South. They agreed that South-South cooperation can be effectively realized in the context of the man in the interest of the developing countries.

The statement has also hailed the four-day visit of the Indian prime minister as significant for Indo-Thai relations after the two way trade rose from $409 million in 1989 to $999 million in 1991, which indicates the possibility of further expansion of the volume of Indo-Thai trade.

The statement adds that Thailand welcomes the economic liberalization programs now on in India, which would support and expand the volume of trade and investment between the two countries.

Thailand has also appreciated the goodwill shown by India in proposing technology transfer in fiber optics, electronics, computer hardware and software, including Indo-Thai cooperation in nuclear technology for peace. The two sides have agreed to discuss the issue further.

The prime ministers of the two countries have also reaffirmed their full support for the Paris agreement and for the efforts of the UNTAC for restoring peace in Cambodia.

Rao Holds News Conference

BK0904074593 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao held a news conference at the Oriental Hotel before noon today. He said that his visit to Thailand is aimed at strengthening relations between Thailand and India as well as holding talks on trade and industrial cooperation. He said that India first will enter joint ventures with Thailand in rice and textiles before in other areas.

Asked about his view of the Cambodian problem, the Indian prime minister believed that Cambodia will be able to hold general elections and improve the situation. Regarding the human rights issue, he said that India has played a role in promoting this issue.

The Indian prime minister also denied the view of several countries that India has tried to become a nuclear power in Asia. He said that India only has nuclear capability for defense purposes. It has never thought of being a nuclear power.

Paper Views Effect of Violence on Cambodian Polls

BK0904023793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Apr 93 p A6

[Editorial: "Cambodian violence will not prevent elections"]

[Text] United Nations Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali leaves Cambodia today after a two-day visit marred by violence, racial killings and attacks on UN peacekeepers at a level unprecedented since the signing of the Paris Peace Accords in October, 1991.

The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (Untac) chief, Yasushi Akashi, has warned Cambodian faction leaders that the level of violence in many parts of the country in the run-up to the election is unacceptable. But Butrus-Ghali yesterday declared that the United Nations will not be intimidated by violence or threats in Cambodia—a reaffirmation of the world body's readiness to proceed with the election scheduled for next month.

As the situation stands today, it looks as if UN officials are abandoning hope for a completely neutral electoral environment—once cited as a prerequisite for the election—and are simply holding out for adequate conditions that will allow voting to take place.

With the Khmer Rouge refusing to disarm under the Paris Peace Accords and insisting on maintaining roaming bands of guerrilla troops, UN posts are being increasingly attacked. Six UN peacekeepers are now dead after raids launched by suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas, and the radical Maoist faction is increasing its anti-UN rhetoric day by day. The latest UN victim is a Japanese electoral team official killed in an attack in Kompong Thom yesterday.

Besides the intransigence of the Khmer Rouge, in other parts of Cambodia banditry is rife and political intimidation is increasing in the run-up to the May poll.

By definition, a free and fair election means a lack of fear among the population and a lack of intimidation. All indications in Cambodia point to the fact that there is no lack of fear around the country.

Anti-Vietnamese violence has escalated dramatically and scores have been killed in attacks on Vietnamese fishing families, many of whom claim they were born in Cambodia and are Cambodians.

The United Nations says up to 10,000 of these families are fleeing in fear to Vietnam and that 2,000 may already qualify as refugees after crossing the border.

Clearly, the anti-Vietnamese violence is a major political issue requiring a more determined United Nations response. The Khmer Rouge has already said the elections won't be free and fair because of the Vietnamese presence in the country.

So the spectre of mass extermination of Vietnamese settlers cannot be ruled out if any faction which loses the election reacts by following what the Khmer Rouge is doing now.

The anti-Vietnamese violence is a politically-motivated act with a rational intention to create fear to impede a free and fair election.

Though the poll will be tense and probably dangerous, it however can be ruled out that any faction will deliberately launch a full-scale frontal attack against the electoral process.

In this respect the attacks by the Khmer Rouge on Vietnamese families is intended to show the Cambodian populace that the faction is alive and active. The Phnom Penh government's State of Cambodia Party on the other hand is running on the platform of providing security for the country.

The bigger problem will be who will fund and control the armies of the Phnom Penh government after the election. There are still a lot of armed soldiers running around the country because Untac has failed to disarm and demobilize them.

UN officials privately admit to the possibility of having to postpone the election because of the violence, but given the massive investment by the United Nations, that seems unlikely.

With time running out, all Untac can now hope for is that minimal conditions will be in place for the elections to be held, even though they might not be totally free and fair.

For the time being it is imperative that a government acceptable to the international community be installed after the elections to avert the possible destruction of Cambodia.

Official: Generals' Wives Wore Saudi Jewels

BK0804015793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Apr 93 p 3

[Text] Deputy Permanent Interior Secretary Ari Wong-araya yesterday accused the "wives of generals" of wearing stolen Saudi jewellery that went missing after it was recovered here by the police.

He claimed to have a picture of a "Thai lady" wearing what is believed to be the missing Saudi jewellery.

Mr Ari, chairman of an Interior Ministry committee reviewing the police reports on three Saudi cases, said he would be happy to take charge of the jewellery from any "general's wife, khunying or whoever has it."

However, he denied sending a letter to any general's wife to tell them to return the jewellery. Press reports that some of the stolen jewellery may be in the hands of generals' wives are good because they will worry whomever has the jewels, he said.

He claimed to have received a picture from newspapers showing a Thai lady wearing what is believed to be the jewellery stolen by a Thai worker from, Prince Faysal Fahd 'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud in Saudi Arabia.

"The evidence which we have, if exposed would frighten the suspects," he claimed.

Much progress has been made by the team, led by Police Department Deputy Director General Chan Rattanatham, which has questioned more than 40 witnesses, he said.

He and his team would go to Saudi Arabia on April 22 to ask for a description of the stolen jewellery from Saudi authorities, he said.

The committee would also investigate where and from whom the jewellery's original thief, Kriangkrai, had received money to buy land, he said.

Pol-Gen [Police General] Chan said his team will review hundreds of pages of previous investigations, pictures showing the jewellery, and videotapes from both home and Saudi Arabia.

"We will try to finish as soon as possible," said Pol-Gen Chan.

BANGKOK POST Issues Correction

BK0904024393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Apr p 1

["Correction"]

[Text] A report which appeared on Page 3 of the April 8 edition of the Bangkok Post contained an erroneous headline which inferred that wives of army officers had worn stolen jewellery. This was an incorrect headline summary of statements made by Deputy Permanent Secretary for Interior Ari Wong-araya.

The Bangkok Post wishes to make it clear that this headline was a mistake which was inadvertently, unintentionally and accidentally made under pressure of deadline and that there is no truth to any suggestion that army wives are wearing, or have ever worn, stolen jewellery.

We further apologise to members of the Royal Thai Army and their wives for any distress, inconvenience or misunderstanding caused.

Chawalit Denies Official's Statement

BK0904030393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Apr 93 p 3

[Text] Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut yesterday denied that Deputy Permanent Secretary for Interior Ari Wong-araya said that the "wives of generals" are in possession of the stolen Saudi jewellery.

Gen Chawalit said it was impossible for Mr Ari, as chairman of the Interior Ministry Committee reviewing police reports on the jewellery case, to say such a thing.

"Mr Ari has never said any such thing because in his position such an interview might damage the investigation," Gen Chawalit insisted.

On Wednesday, Mr Ari was quoted by reporters as telling them that he would be happy to take back the jewellery that is in the possession of "generals' wives khunying or whoever may have it."

Gen Chawalit said he did not want good people who have nothing to do with the wrongdoing to suffer.

The Interior Minister said the reports about the Saudi jewellery case had to be done through mobile phone.

Mr Ari also complained that he did not say what was reported in the Bangkok Post yesterday and added that he would not comment on the issue again.

Vietnam

VNA Reports Return of U.S. MIA Remains

BK0804143093 Hanoi VNA in English 1414 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 8—Representatives of the Vietnam MIA office yesterday returned 16 remains of

American servicemen missing in action and their personal effects to the representatives of the US MIA office. The remains had been collected during the recent 22nd joint Vietnam-U.S. search, bringing to 532 the number of remains of American MIA's returned to the US side since March 1974. The representative of the US MIA office highly appreciated the Vietnamees Government and people's cooperation in this humanitarian work.

Senator Muskie, Delegation Conclude Visit 8 Apr

BK0804143393 Hanoi VNA in English 1413 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 8—Senator Edmund Muskie, former secretary of state and chairman of the Centre for National Policy, who heads a 13-member delegation of US political activists and businessmen left Ho Chi Minh City today for Cambodia after a visit to Vietnam since April 3.

While here, the delegation paid tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum and was received by Party General Secretary Do Muoi. It also met with Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and Chief of Staff of the Vietnam People's Army General Dao Dinh Luyen. The delegation had working sessions with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Commerce and the General Department of Oil and Gas, met with several intellectuals and visited the Army Museum.

During these contacts, Mr Edmund Muskie and others in his delegation expressed their belief that it is time to turn a new leaf in the history of Vietnam-US relations, that in spite of invevitable issues left by the war, the best way for the two countries to solve them and move quickly to a bright future is to normalise their relations. The Vietnamese side shared that viewpoint and expressed its readiness to do all in its capacity to work for that goal.

Hanoi Hails Visit, Urges Normalized Ties

BK0804154993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] A 13-member delegation of the U.S. Center for National Policy, CNP, led by Senator Edmund Muskie, former secretary of state and chairman of the CNP, visited Vietnam from 3 to 8 April. The delegation includes Richard Moose, senior vice president of the American Express company and former special adviser to the U.S. Security Council; Robert Murray, president of the Center for Naval Analysis and former deputy secretary of the Navy; Mrs. Maureen Steinbruner, acting director of the CNP; and representatives of major oil companies, business circles, and the banking sector of the United States.

During their stay in Vietnam, the delegation visited President Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum, were received by General Secretary Do Muoi, and met with Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, and Dao Dinh Luyen, chief of staff of the Vietnam People's Army. The delegation held working sessions with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Commerce, and the Vietnam Oil and Gas General Department. The U.S. delegation also met with several intellectuals and visited the Army Museum.

In Ho Chi Minh City, the U.S. delegation was received by Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, met with leaders of the city, and held talks with Vietnamese corporation officials and representatives of foreign banks and companies.

Through these meetings, the U.S. delegation was extensively briefed on Vietnam's renovation undertaking and the country's domestic and foreign policies as well as Vietnam's efforts aimed at building new U.S.-Vietnam relations in the interest of the two countries and for peace, stability, and development in the region

The U.S. delegation highly appraised Vietnam's serious attitude and positive contributions to the peace process in Cambodia as well as its goodwill and efforts in resolving the MIA issue. The U.S. delegation contended that achievements scored by Vietnam in the renovation undertaking and in implementing the new foreign policy during the past period have created favorable conditions for the country to assimilate into the world community and have enhanced Vietnam's significant role in contributing to peace, stability, and cooperation in the region. The U.S. delegation expressed the belief that it is time to turn a new leaf in Vietnam-U.S. relations and that in spite of inevitable issues left by the war, the best way for the two countries to resolve them and move quickly toward a better future is to normalize Vietnam-U.S. relations. The Vietnamese side shared this viewpoint and expressed its readiness to do all it can to work toward this goal.

On behalf of the U.S. delegation, former Secretary of State Edmund Muskie thanked the Vietnamese leadership and people for their warm welcome and hospitality. The U.S. delegation left Ho Chi Minh City on 8 April for a visit to Cambodia before returning to the United States.

Airline Expands, Ready To Cooperate With U.S.

BK0804121593 Hanoi VNA in English 0530 GMT 4 Apr 93

[Text] Vietnam Airlines plans to increase its domestic flights, especially short-range flights, and reopen many old airports including those in Vinh capital of Nghe An Province, Cat Bi near the port city of Haiphong, Phu Cat in Nha Trang Town, Pleiku in the central highlands and on Con Dao (Poulo Con Dao) Island, to south Vietnam coast.

It plans to enter into joint ventures with foreign countries to build a factory to prepare foods for passengers, and to expand and upgrade the international airports in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi.

Last year, Vietnam Airlines transported 824,636 passengers, up by 73 percent compared with 1991, and achieved an increase of 64.5 percent in cargo freight.

The number of international flights increased by 31.5 percent. It earned 9 million US dollars from flight services and air operations fees.

It contributed more than 167 billion VN [Vietnamese] dong or 16.7 million US dollars to the state budget.

It is now competing with two domestic and 13 foreign airlines. In 1992, it transported 369,000 foreign passengers, representing 37.4 percent of the total passenger freight on international air routes and an increase of 3.4 percent over 1991.

It will cooperate with Singapore Airlines in the training of air hostesses.

Vietnam Airlines has made everything ready to cooperate with American airlines once the embargo is lifted, said Director General Nguyen Hong Nhi.

Foreign Minister Addresses Laos Ties, Cambodia

BK0804164593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Interview with Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam by station correspondent; date, place not given—Nguyen Manh Cam speaks in Vietnamese fading into English translation; recorded]

[Text] Vietnam and Laos are neigboring countries which have a long-standing relationship and special solidarity and comprehensive cooperation. With such close relations many Vietnamese nationals are living in Laos and many Lao are residing in Vietnam. Recently, during the visit to Vietnam by a high-level Lao party and government delegation, this agreement was signed to create favorable conditions for the movement and the ability to earn a living for their nationals. This is the first time Vietnam and Laos signed such an agreement. It means the nationals of each country are protected by the government of their residing country as if they were citizens. They are entitled to obtain exist and entry visas, reside, and travel according to the regulations and law applied to foreigners. They are entitled for schooling at all levels and preserve property including real estate, and enjoy the rights in [word indistinct] according to law on settlement, do business, and engage in occupations and other benefits. The signing of this agreement and [word indistinct] express the friendship and solidarity between the two countries and will facilitate the local offices and branches of the two countries to implement the uniform policy toward both groups of nationals. It also contributes to strengthening the bilateral relations.

Meanwhile, the Khmer Rouge are threatening the lives of Vietnamese nationals living in Cambodia. On this issue, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam said: The Khmer Rouge has conducted terrorism against ethnic Vietnamese in Cambodia including women and children. This has (?contributed) to the exodus of thousands of Vietnamese nationals who want to [words indistinct]. This move shows the unchanged nature of the Khmer Rouge to continue to pursue a policy of ethnic cleansing and inciting national enmity, grossly violating international declaration on human right. They are aimed at causing instability in Cambodia, sabotaging peace, obstructing elections in Cambodia, and coming after their acts of undermining the Paris peace agreement.

The Vietnamese Government stands on its position which was made clear in its statement on March 12 and in letters by Vietnamese Premier Vo Van Kiet to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Prime Minister Hun Sen, and leaders of ASEAN countries. Vietnam expresses its worry over the waves of murder and terrorism which remind everyone of the killing fields during the 1975-79 period. Vietnam calls on governments and people's conscience the world over to take the bloody arms of the Khmer Rouge and protect ethnic Vietnamese in Cambodia. Vietnam highly appreciates the strong reactions of governments, national and international organizations against the Khmer Rouge. Vietnam believes that (?whatever) [word indistinct] the Khmer Rouge may be, they have to take into consideration the resolute stand of international community.

Delegation Departs for New York Economic Seminar

BK0904065593 Hanoi VNA in English 0608 GMT 9 Apr 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 9—A Vietnamese delegation left Hanoi Thursday morning for New York to attend a U.S.-Vietnam economic seminar scheduled to open there on April 11.

The delegation was led by Mr. Phan Hien, former minister of justice and president of the Vietnam-U.S. Society. It included Nguyen Mai, vice-chairman of the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment, Le Van Chau, deputy-governor of the State Bank, and a number of scientists and economists.

The seminar is sponsored by a number of U.S. companies with the participation of the U.S.-Vietnam Commerce Organization, the Asian Trade Society of the U.S., and the U.S.-Indochina Reconciliation Organization.

This is the first seminar in which U.S. business and economists will directly discuss with the Vietnemese side the possibilities of economic and tade cooperation between the two countries.

Travel Permits No Longer Required Within Country

BK0804162093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0916 GMT 8 Apr 93

[Text] HANOI, April 8 (AFP)—Vietnam's Interior Ministry has announced that foreigners and overseas Vietnamese are no longer required to obtain travel permits to visit most areas of the country. The requirement was officially dropped April 1, ministry officials said Thursday.

Special permits are still required to visit certain areas designated as sensitive, notably border districts and localities where major military installations are sited. Foreign residents and visitors had previously been required to obtain police authorization for all travel in Vietnam.

Mekong Interim Committee Meets in Bangkok

BK0704155993 Hanoi VNA in English 1438 GMT 7 Apr 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 7—Representatives of the four countries members of the Mekong interim committee, viz—Vietnam, Laos, Thailand and Cambodia, held the second session of its working group in Bangkok on April 5 under the chairmanship of Mr. K.G. Singh, regional director of the United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP) for Asia and the Pacific. The session decided that the third session will be held in Laos in late June this year.

Doan Khue Addresses Air Defense Gathering

BK0504135893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 1 Apr 93

[Text] This morning, cadres, soldiers, and office and manual workers of the Air Defense Force organized a solemn meeting to mark the force's 40th founding anniversary. On this occasion they proudly received a certificate of distinction and a bouquet from President Le Duc Anh. They were also happy to welcome General Doan Khue, member of the Political Bureau and minister of national defense, who came to visit and address the function.

In dealing with the new situation and tasks, the comrade stressed the need to constantly consolidate the militancy and political and ideological backgrounds of cadres, soldiers, and office and manual workers so they will remain loyal to the revolutionary undertaking of our party and people. Special efforts must be made to develop and to uphold the militancy and leadership skills of party organizations in accordance with the goals set by the Seventh Party Congress aimed at revamping and renovating the party.

Comrade Lieutenant General Tran Nhan, commander of the Air Defense Force, pledged everyone's determination to develop the heroic traditions of cadres, soldiers, and office and manual workers of the Air Defense Force over the past 40 years by constantly upholding vigilance and by standing ready to firmly defend the fatherland's airspace in the new situation.

Doan Khue, Le Kha Phieu Attend Army Conference

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[Text] To concretize and implement the Party Central Committee Third Plenum's resolution and the Party Central Committee Military Commission's Resolution No. 79, the standing body of the Party Central Committee Military Commission [CCMC] held the sixth all-army conference on party organization from 30 March to 3 April. Senior Lieutenant General Le Kha Phieu, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee and director of the General Political Department, chaired the conference.

Attending the conference were General Doan Khue, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau, deputy secretary of the CCMC, and minister of National Defense, and Le Huy Ngo, member of the Party Central Committee and deputy chief of the Party Central Committee Organization Department.

The conference discussed draft reports on tasks of various echelons aimed at building pure, firm, and strong basic party organizations and at enhancing the army's combativeness to fulfill the assigned tasks under all circumstances.

The conference asserted that to build up the army to be firm and strong in all aspects, efforts must be made to enhance the political background of units, improve the quality of various basic party organizations, and bolster the capability of the contingent of party members in the army, especially in the new situation.